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50¢/Free to Deployed Areas

The helmet of Spc. Nicholas Panipinto is displayed on a battlefield cross during a memorial service inside the Warrior Chapel at Camp Humphreys, South Korea, Friday, Nov. 15, 2019.

MATTHEW KEELER/Stars and Stripes

Confused response

Miscommunications, delays plagued reaction to deadly rollover accident in S. Korea

BY KIM GAMEL
Stars and Stripes

CAMP HUMPHREYS, South Korea

Order to conduct a road test, the pair of Bradley Fighting Vehicles pulled out of the motor pool and turned right. That was the first mistake, according to an investigation into the Nov. 6, 2019, rollover that killed Spc. Nicholas Panipinto, 20, and injured four others on Camp Humphreys.

The nearly 28-ton tracked vehicles should have gone left toward the base's vehicle wash rack, turned around and returned to their starting point, investigators found. That was the approved road test route relayed to the company by its executive officer via WhatsApp more than a week earlier.

Panipinto

SEE DEADLY ON PAGE 5

One dead in Portland after clash between demonstrators

BY GILLIAN FLACCUS
Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. — One person was shot and killed in Portland, Ore., as a large caravan of President Donald Trump supporters and Black Lives Matter protesters clashed in the streets, police said.

It wasn't clear if the shooting late Saturday was linked to fights that broke out as a caravan of about 600 vehicles was confronted by counter-

RELATED

Amid fury, President traveling to Kenosha, Wis., on Tuesday

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demonstrators in the city's downtown.

Police said the caravan had left the area around 8:30 p.m., and officers heard gunshots around 15 minutes later, according to a statement. Officers arrived at the shooting scene "within a minute," police said, but the man who was shot did not survive.

An Associated Press freelance photographer heard three gunshots and then observed police medics attending to the victim, who appeared to be a white man. The freelancer said the

man was wearing a hat bearing the insignia of Patriot Prayer, a right-wing group whose members have frequently clashed with protesters in Portland in the past.

Police said the man was shot in the chest. He was not immediately identified. It's unclear who shot him.

Homicide detectives were looking for more evidence, acknowledging several images and videos had been posted on social media.

"It is important for detectives to get

a full and accurate picture of what happened before, during, and after the shooting," a police statement said. "If anyone was a witness, has video, or has information about the homicide, they're asked to contact the primary detectives."

"This violence is completely unacceptable and we are working diligently to find and apprehend the individual or individuals responsible," Chief Chuck

SEE CLASH ON PAGE 10

BUSINESS/WEATHER

Global job cuts herald economic pain ahead

Bloomberg

Global corporations have announced more than 200,000 job cuts or buyouts in recent weeks, a worrying sign that more losses will come as furloughs implemented early in the pandemic turn into permanent layoffs.

MGM Resorts International and Coca-Cola Co. were the latest examples on Friday, joining an increasing number of companies that are trimming their workforce after economies emerged

from shutdowns. Almost a quarter of U.S. workers that were temporarily laid off probably won't come back, according to Goldman Sachs Group Inc. estimates.

The cuts cast a shadow on the fragile rebound in the global economy at a time when COVID-19 continues to pose a threat and many government stimulus programs have run their course.

The impact is widespread. Airlines were hit the earliest by a collapse in travel, and the job losses have now extended to retailers,

entertainment and cosmetics companies.

The U.S. retail industry furloughed more than 1 million workers in early April amid lockdowns. Many may become permanent.

With the pandemic constraining commerce, many firms are facting the prospect of losing billions of dollars on soured loans. While some large European banks have said they need to cut workers, U.S. banks have largely abstained — except for Wells Fargo.

MONDAY IN THE MIDDLE EAST



WEATHER OUTLOOK

MONDAY IN EUROPE



TUESDAY IN THE PACIFIC



The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 2nd Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

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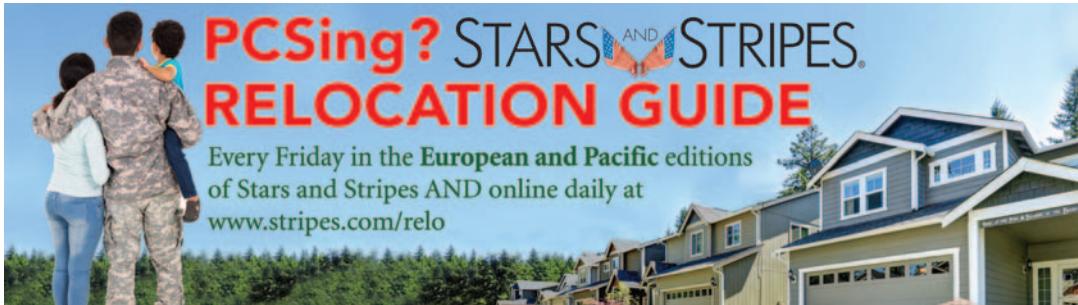
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RELOCATION GUIDE

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of Stars and Stripes AND online daily at
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EXCHANGE RATES

	Military rate	Commercial rates
Euro (cents) (Aug. 31)	\$1.16	0.7698
Dollar buys (Aug. 31)	€0.98	1.30
British pound (Aug. 31)	1.30	1.30
Japanese yen (Aug. 31)	103.00	1.155,00
South Korean won (Aug. 31)	1.155,00	
		Commercial rates
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3766	
British pound	\$1.3342	
Chinese yuan	0.1394	
China (Yuan)	6.8654	
Denmark (Krone)	6.2591	
Egypt (Pound)	15.9699	
EURO (Euro)	\$1.1890/0.9750	
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7903	
Hungary (Forint)	297.66	
India (Rupee)	83.16	
Japan (Yen)	105.43	
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.3055	
Norway (Krone)	8.8065	
Poland (Zlote)	4.63	
Poland (Zlony)	3.69	
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7503	
Singapore (Dollar)	1.3582	
South Korea (Won)	1182.66	

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	3.25
Discount rate	0.25
Federal funds marketrate	0.0
3-month bill	0.10
30-year bond	1.51

MILITARY

Marines end use of photos for promotions

BY IMMANUEL JOHNSON
Stars and Stripes

Photos will no longer be used to select Marines for promotion or assignments, training, education and command opportunities as of Tuesday, officials said as the Corps joins a services-wide effort to fight unconscious bias.

In a memo released last week, the Marine Corps noted that only "authorized information can be placed before, requested by, or reviewed by members of a selection board" and photos of Marines were no longer considered authorized.

The move follows Secretary of Defense Mark Esper's July 14 guidance to all service branches to stop using photographs in promotion boards and selection processes, to help the military to better reflect the U.S.'s diversity in its ranks and ensure "equal opportunity for all who serve."

Two weeks before Esper's memo, the Marines said they had no plans to eliminate the photos, which were called a procedural requirement by service Manpower and Reserve Affairs spokeswoman Yvonne Carlock, according to Military.com.

The Marines compose their board with diversity in mind and "each member agrees to the precept which directs that Marines' race, religion, color, sex (including gender identity), sexual orientation, or national origin will not impact their pro-



ISAAC D. MARTINEZ/U.S. Marine Corps

U.S. Marine Corps Lance Cpl. John Hall, a combat photographer, takes a picture in the promotion photo studio at Marine Corps Air Station in Yuma, Ariz., in June 2019. Photos will no longer be used by promotion boards or in the selection process for opportunities such as training and assignments, the Marine Corps has said.

essional opportunities," Carlock said.

The Marines are the second service branch to bar the use of photos in the

promotion and selections processes. The Army stopped using photos on Aug. 1, days after Esper's memo.

Marine Corps Commandant Gen. David Berger last month called on the service to "listen, understand, try to empathize, so that we can make adjustments within our service to change the way that some people view ... either a conscious bias or an unconscious bias."

"We got to change the way that we discuss things, the way that we understand them. And that means a lot more listening," he said.

The Navy has set up a task force to address biases in the service, and the Air Force has ordered independent reviews of its record on military discipline and opportunities for Black airmen.

A Marine who has used promotion photos several times said she endorsed the move to stop using pictures.

"Anything that helps eliminate unfair bias is a good thing," said Sgt. Kirstin Spanu, a communications strategy and operations specialist with the Marine Reserve.

The military began more closely examining its policies on diversity and racial bias after protests flared around the U.S. following the deaths of several African Americans, including George Floyd in Minneapolis and Breonna Taylor in Louisville, Ky., at the hands of law enforcement officials.

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Parents of poisoned toddler sue government for negligence

BY WYATT OLSON
Stars and Stripes

FORT SHAFTER, Hawaii — The parents of a 7-month-old girl who died last year at an unauthorized home day care in Army housing in Honolulu filed suit Wednesday alleging that negligence by active-duty military personnel and federal employees led to her death.

The lawsuit, filed in U.S. District Court of Hawaii, names the United States of America, Island Palm Communities and 10 as-yet unnamed individuals as defendants.

Abigail Lobisch died Feb. 24, 2019, while staying overnight at the unlicensed day care at Aliamanu Military Reservation, Honolulu, operated by Dixie De-nise Villa.

An autopsy determined Abigail's death was caused by a lethal amount of diphenhydramine, an over-the-counter medication that also goes by the brand name Benadryl. Her bloodstream contained roughly double the amount that has proven fatal in other infants.

Villa has been charged with manslaughter and is awaiting trial while out on bail.

The Army has jurisdiction over Aliamanu, which lies on the western outskirts of Honolulu. Island Palm Communities is a private company that manages housing in partnership with the Army in Hawaii.

"Our civil lawsuit is directed against the United States for its failure to enforce safety rules," said Loretta Sheehan, the attorney representing Anna and James Lobisch. "At the end of the day, in our case it's irrelevant whether Ms. Villa or somebody else in that household poisoned Abigail. What matters is that a child care establishment was being run out of that household, exposing children to neglect and to danger, and Abigail was the one who finally paid the price."

The suit seeks an unspecified amount of compensation for "severe and devastating emotional distress" suffered by the Lobischs over their daughter's death.

"We just don't ever want something like this to happen again to anyone — to any child, to any parent," Anna Lobisch said during a phone interview Thursday. "We said this before: We're never going to have closure from what happened. It's not going to bring Abi back, but we're hoping that justice will be served."

Army Garrison Hawaii on Thursday referred questions about the lawsuit to the Pentagon, but it was after hours in Washington.

Villa and her husband, Aaron Villa, a chief petty officer in the Navy, moved into their home at Aliamanu in late 2017 after he was transferred from Naval Air Station Whidbey Island in Washington, the lawsuit said.

The suit alleges that Villa oper-

ated an unauthorized home day care at the Whidbey neighborhood known as Mayor Point. In 2015, one of Aaron Villa's superiors ordered the chief petty officer to "shut it down," the lawsuit said.

Children at risk

Soon after moving to Aliamanu, Denise Villa began operating an unauthorized day care, and a neighbor began seeing and hearing things that led her to believe children were being left unsupervised and at risk of hurting themselves.

The neighbor, Katie Camario — referred to only as "K.C." in the lawsuit — made numerous calls over months to staffers at Island Palm Communities, submitting photos and video of incidents in Villa's backyard.

In early January 2018, Camario saw a toddler crying in the backyard for about five minutes; no one tended to the child, the lawsuit said.

"On January 8, 2018, K.C. heard a child yelling: 'fire, fire!'" the lawsuit said. "She came to the window and saw a boy of about 4-5 years of age holding a long lighter. The boy was attempting to light a trampoline in the backyard on fire. K.C. saw a flame come out of the lighter."

Handed the lighter, another child put it in his mouth, the lawsuit said.

In this instance, Camario



Anna Lobisch

Anna Lobisch poses with daughter Abigail, who died in Honolulu, Feb. 24, 2019.

called the military police, who responded to the Villa home.

But the unauthorized day care continued to operate.

'Cease and desist'

During a town hall meeting at Fort Shafter shortly after Abigail's death, Col. Thomas Barrett, then the commander of U.S. Army Garrison Hawaii, told the audience that the Army had issued two "cease and desist" orders to Villa in early 2018, but that she "had disregarded those orders," the lawsuit said.

"The government has a tremendous number of safety rules when it comes to providing child care on base," Sheehan said. "Child care providers are required to go through rigorous background

checks, interviews, references. They have to go through training. They are subject to unannounced inspections. They are subject to recall training. So there's quite a safety net there when it comes to child care on base."

But in this case, government officials apparently did not follow those safety rules.

"Nothing was ever enforced," Sheehan said. "Nobody was ever barred from base. Military housing was never taken away. There was never a refusal to renew their lease. The government appeared to simply wag its finger at Ms. Villa and didn't shut her down, and the failure to shut her down as a child care provider led to the death of Abigail Lobisch."

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PACIFIC

Navy challenges China's claim in South China Sea

By CAITLIN DOORNBOS
Stars and Stripes

A U.S. Navy destroyer passed near contested islands in the South China Sea again Thursday, the same day Defense Secretary Mark Esper emphasized the Pentagon's intent to continue challenging Beijing's territorial claims in the region.

The USS *Mustin* steamed near the Paracel Islands, its second cruise in the area this year, to challenge "excessive maritime claims and reinforce laws of the sea in international waters," according to a Navy statement.

China has set up military airfields and outposts on the islands that have raised concern among surrounding nations and within the United States, which sends its warships through the area on a regular basis.

The U.S. went on record in July formally rejecting China's claims in the region. On Wednesday in Honolulu — Thursday in the

South China Sea — Esper said in a livestreamed speech that China has failed to honor commitments it made to refrain from militarizing parts of the South China Sea.

The *Mustin*'s operation came the same day the U.S. Bureau of Industry and Security sanctioned 24 Chinese companies "for their role in helping the Chinese military construct and militarize" features in the South China Sea, including the Paracels, according to a Commerce Department statement.

"Despite protests from the United States and other countries, the government of the People's Republic of China has been rapidly building the artificial islands since 2013, enabling the Communist Chinese Party's militarization of disputed outposts in the South China Sea to undermine the sovereign rights of U.S. partners in the region," the statement said.

China claims sovereignty over

the Paracel Islands and has occupied them since 1974, according to the CIA World Factbook. Taiwan and Vietnam also lay claim to the islands.

This year, at least five other U.S. Navy vessels, mostly destroyers but also one littoral combat ship, the USS *Montgomery*, have passed by either the Paracels or the Spratly Islands, another contested group in the South China Sea. The *Mustin* in May passed by the Paracels.

During freedom-of-navigation operations, Navy ships typically sail within 12 nautical miles of a contested shoreline. The operations are intended to refute territorial claims and demonstrate a right to open navigation, according to the Navy.

More than \$5 trillion in international trade passes through the South China Sea each year, according to the Navy statement. Esper, in his speech at the Daniel K. Inouye Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies, said access to



CODY BEAM/U.S. Navy

The guided-missile destroyer USS *Mustin* passes through the Taiwan Strait in the East China Sea, on Aug. 18.

the region is essential to trade.

"The (National Defense Strategy) identifies the Indo-Pacific as the department's priority theater given its economic and strategic significance," he said. "More than half of all global maritime

trade transits through Asia, and the region alone accounts for 60% of the world's gross domestic product."

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Expert predicts Space Force troops to be stationed in Japan

By SETH ROBSON
Stars and Stripes

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — The U.S. Space Force will soon have personnel in Japan, a local space expert predicts, following the first visit by a commander of the new service branch to Tokyo.

Chief of Space Operations Gen. John Raymond, who took command of the newly formed service in December, and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe met Thursday and agreed to boost security cooperation in space, where adversaries China and Russia are enhancing capabilities.

There weren't any Space Force troops in Japan for Raymond to visit; however, Tatsuki Matsu, a professor of math, physics and statistics and Temple University's Japan Campus in Tokyo, thinks there will be in the near future.

"It will happen pretty soon

because the threat is growing at an increasing speed," Matsu, who studies interplanetary satellite propulsion, said in an email Thursday.

Japan is threatened by multiple neighboring countries and ballistic missiles are the major concern, he said.

North Korea has conducted numerous missile tests, including firing intercontinental ballistic missiles over Japan in recent years, while China has built a vast missile arsenal that experts believe is honed in on U.S. military bases in Japan.

Abe and Raymond discussed strengthening cooperation between the Space Force and the Japan Air Self-Defense Force's Space Operations Squadron, along with plans by the United States to send astronauts back to the moon by 2024, Japan's For-

ce, Minister of Defense in a news release.

Japan stood up the squadron in May with 20 members. Its mission involves keeping tabs on threats to Japanese satellites such as meteorites and space junk.

"Its role is expected to expand in the near future," Matsu said. The U.S. Space Force was established Dec. 20 with a force of 16,000 military and civilian personnel, as part of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020. The Pentagon's first Space Force budget proposal calls for \$15.4 billion in 2021.

Raymond, during his Air Force career, was stationed at Yokota in western Tokyo from 2010 to 2012. He served there as vice commander of 5th Air Force and deputy commander of 13th Air Force, which inactivated and merged with Pacific Air Forces in September 2012, according to his official biography.

He said participating in Operation Tomodachi after the devastating 2011 earthquake and tsunami in the country's northeast, made him realize how strong the U.S.-Japan alliance is after Abe thanked him for U.S. Forces Japan's rescue and support efforts, according to the Foreign Ministry statement.

He told Abe, during their meeting, that the U.S. considers Japan its most important partner in outer space, the statement added.

Securing the space domain near and over Japan would be the most

important activity in the nation's defense, said Matsu, adding that the Japan Self-Defense Force will likely expand its efforts in space in the near future.

"Combined with their high-quality manufacturing capability and mastery in electrical engineering, I think Japan can make a unique contribution to helping to build the U.S. Space Force," he said.

Raymond also met with Defense Minister Taro Kono, science and technology minister Naokazu Takemoto and senior vice foreign minister Keisuke Suzuki on Thursday, a day after participating in a Japan-U.S. space dialogue, according to the Foreign Ministry.

Stars and Stripes reporter Hans Kusumoto contributed to this report.
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South Korean army's chief of staff picked as new defense minister

By KIM GAMEL
AND KYOUNG CHANG
Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea — President Moon Jae-in has nominated the army's chief of staff to be his new defense minister, the presidential office said Friday, citing his expertise in U.S.-South Korean military relations.

Gen. Suh Wook, who has been chief of staff since April 2019 and previously served as the operations division chief at the U.S.-led Combined Forces

Command, will face a confirmation hearing at the National Assembly.

He would replace Jeong Kyeong-doo, a former air force fighter pilot who has held the post since 2018.

The Blue House cited Suh's expertise in military field maneuvers and combined operations between the longtime allies, which wrapped up their latest joint training exercise on Friday.

The nomination comes as South Korea is pressing to expedite the long-delayed transfer of wartime op-

erational control, or OPCON, from the United States to Seoul before the end of Moon's term in 2022.

Recent military exercises have focused on testing Seoul's ability to assume control of OPCON since plans to hand it over have been conditioned-based after the allies missed a 2015 deadline amid rising tensions with North Korea.

Suh, 57, who was born in the city of Gwangju, has a good understanding of the Moon administration's philosophy on national security, presidential spokesman Kang Min-seok said dur-

ing a briefing.

"We expect him to contribute to maintaining a strong readiness posture based on experiences and insight from his more than 30 years of service," Kang said.

The spokesman added: "He is the right person to push for the OPCON transfer based upon a strong South Korean-U.S. alliance, as well as implementing defense reforms to build a stronger military."

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PACIFIC

Deadly: Panipinto had only 6 hours of training beforehand

FROM FRONT PAGE

Instead, they ended up on a multipurpose training range and began making two loops.

Panipinto, of Bradenton, Fla., enlisted in the Army on Jan. 9, 2018, and completed training as an infantryman at Fort Benning, Ga. From there, he joined Arrowhead Company, 2nd Battalion, 7th Cavalry Regiment, which traveled to South Korea as part of the 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team for a nine-month rotation beginning in June 2019.

Kimberly Weaver said her son had only recently become a driver, didn't have the proper license to drive a Bradley, had received only six hours of hands-on training and had no classroom instruction.

The 130-page investigation, completed at the end of December, said the primary causes of the accident were speeding and a corrective oversteer. It also said the convoy had not been authorized to enter the training field, which was already being used by another unit.

But details in the sworn statements and other information obtained by Weaver show a series of training and medical response lapses, including a medevac helicopter that went to the wrong place.

Three soldiers punished

The Fort Hood, Texas-based 1st Cavalry Division has moved to oust the company commander, the platoon leader and the Bradley commander from the Army, according to a slide provided to Weaver when she met with the combat team commander Col. Kevin Capra on Aug. 23.

The three "received letters of reprimand and were initiated for involuntary separation," it said. "In addition, the Bradley commander received non-judicial punishment and was reduced in rank."

All 37 companies in the 3rd Brigade Combat Team were ordered to reassess their driver's training programs, to brief battalion commanders on the status of those programs and to ensure

the programs are enforced to Army standards.

The slide also said U.S. Forces Korea, the main command on the divided peninsula, has ordered an examination into emergency medical care on all of its bases.

However, the changes are not enough for Weaver, who says her son's death had been preventable and the soldiers being punished are being used as scapegoats.

"This whole thing has just so many problems on so many different levels," Weaver said Saturday in a phone interview. "Why are these three lower-level unit soldiers being thrown under the bus while the higher-ups are not being held accountable when all these failures happened under their watch."

Weaver also received a copy of the emergency room report and the redacted Army investigation, which she shared with Stars and Stripes.

Capra "did say that none of this was Nicholas' fault. The commander said he was never supposed to be behind the wheel to begin with," she said.

In a separate statement, Capra called the deaths of Panipinto and Spc. Octavius Lakes Jr., who was killed in a separate Bradley rollover in January in California, "terrible tragedies."

The investigation had "resulted in non-judicial punishment for those found at fault for actions that contributed to the incident," he said, without providing more details.

Capra expressed confidence that lessons learned from the accidents would ultimately help make training safer.

"As a result of these investigations, the unit increased its focus on driver's training, improving the quality, frequency and record keeping for the driver's training program to ensure all those operating combat vehicles were trained and licensed properly," he said.

However, that was not the only problem. The road test was supposed to have been done the previous day in preparation for an upcoming gunnery exercise but apparently had to be pushed back.



MATTHEW KEELER/Stars and Stripes

A photo of Spc. Nicholas Panipinto is displayed during a memorial service inside the Warrior Chapel at Camp Humphreys, South Korea, on Nov. 15, 2019.

Senior leaders said they didn't know it had been planned and were caught by surprise when informed about the rollover.

Confusion and delays

The accident happened at about 2:30 p.m. during the second loop.

"The driver of A31, SPC Panipinto, conducted the left-hand turn and missed the paved road with his right side tracks," the investigation said. "SPC Panipinto then continued to steer to the left, digging the right track into the soft dirt" and prompting the vehicle to roll over.

The exact speed couldn't be determined, but investigators cited witness testimony and a simulation to place it at 17 to 40 miles per hour. The speed limit at the range is 6 to 15 mph. Weaver pointed out that some witnesses gave slower speeds.

Panipinto was trapped in the driver's position with a severe head wound, two crew members were thrown from the vehicle and two others were stuck in the back. Other troops on the scene had to use a sledgehammer to break the lock on the rear escape hatch to get them out.

Meanwhile, the other Bradley was used to tip the crashed vehicle with tow chains so Panipinto could be pulled out.

Combat medics and civilian first-responders raced to the scene, many of them saying they literally ran or flagged down cars to hitch a ride on the vast cars to a nearby South Korean hospital.

which is in the rural area of Pyeongtaek, south of Seoul. One rode a bicycle.

"There was some initial confusion amongst leadership as to the location of the accident — many personnel from the company initially moved toward the vehicle wash rack instead of the (training range)" according to the investigation summary.

The battalion surgeon and the other medics were praised for their efforts to treat Panipinto in an ambulance at the scene, but some testified that oxygen and suction supplies ran low and had to be replaced.

At one point, Panipinto was taken out of the ambulance on a stretcher to prepare for the air-lift that was said to be about 10 minutes away. But the helicopter mistakenly went to the Rodriguez Live Fire Training Range near the border with North Korea, and the second was delayed by mechanical problems, witnesses said.

Camp Humphreys, which serves as the military's main headquarters in South Korea and is the largest overseas U.S. base, had recently completed the construction of a new hospital, and the state-of-the-art facility was just over a week from fully opening.

Even after it opened, the Brian D. Allgood Community Hospital, which replaced an older facility that had been closed on the former main base in Seoul, is not equipped to treat trauma so those cases are sent to a nearby South Korean hospital.

"By the time he got to the ER, they gave him nine pints of blood and five pints of plasma," Weaver said. "He was pretty much completely drained of fluid because it took two hours to get him to the hospital."

Calls for reform

The rollover was one of an alarming number of training accidents that have prompted calls for reforms.

A Congressional Research Service report showed that 32% of active-duty military deaths between 2006 and 2018 were the result of accidents, while 16% were killed in action.

Earlier this month, Rep. Vern Buchanan, a Florida Republican, called on the House Armed Services Committee to hold a public hearing on the issue. The House also passed an amendment to the defense budget authored by Buchanan that would require the Pentagon to examine emergency medical services at U.S. military bases.

Weaver said she also will continue to fight for changes to prevent future accidents from killing other soldiers like her son.

"He was my best friend and I can't just let him go without doing something," she said. "If we can do anything in his name to force change and save lives, then that's what I have to do."

Stars and Stripes reporter Corey Dickstein contributed to this report. gamel.kim@stripes.com Twitter: @Kimgame1

Tokyo's virus number falls; US military reports 6 new cases

Stars and Stripes

TOKYO — The U.S. military in Japan reported just a handful of new coronavirus cases over the weekend, while the daily count in the nation's capital took a substantial dip.

Tokyo announced 247 cases on Saturday and 148 on Sunday.

according to reports by national broadcaster NHK and the Tokyo Metropolitan Government. The last time the city's daily count fell below 200 was Aug. 25.

Tokyo, which is near several U.S. military installations, has recorded a pandemic total of 20,717 cases.

Marine Corps Installations Pacific announced Saturday that six people had tested positive for the coronavirus at three Okinawa bases: four infections at Camp Foster, one at Camp Kinser and one at Camp Courtney. "These individuals all tested positive due to our requirement to

test all inbound personnel before exiting [quarantine]," a statement said. "All of these individuals have been in [quarantine] for nearly two weeks. Close contacts have been notified and directed to quarantine."

No cases were recorded on Sunday; however, the Marines

did announce that three people had recovered from the virus. The previous day, it said one individual was no longer infected.

No other U.S. military installations in Japan had reported new coronavirus patients as of 9 p.m. Sunday.

news@stripes.com

MILITARY/WAR

MCAS Iwakuni bans family for coronavirus violations

By JOSEPH DITZLER
Stars and Stripes

OKINAWA — An American family that drew rebuke from Japan's defense minister after skirting coronavirus restrictions in July has been barred from Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, and all U.S. military installations, for 10 years, according to Marine statements.

The family of four arrived July 12 at Haneda International Airport in central Tokyo and the following day boarded a commercial flight for Kintaikyo Airport, which shares a runway with MCAS Iwakuni, according to a news release by the air station Friday. Tests by Japanese authorities at Haneda later showed three of the family members were infected with the coronavirus.

According to the Marines, the family violated Japan's Quarantine Act, along with orders in place from U.S. Forces Japan and MCAS Iwakuni to control the

virus' spread.

Japan at the time was experiencing the onset of a second wave of coronavirus cases.

Friday's release came with an apology: "The air station expresses sincere regret to our Japanese neighbors for any anxiety caused by this incident and we will continue to strictly enforce appropriate COVID-19 risk mitigation measures."

The family left Iwakuni on Friday for the U.S., according to an email Saturday from 1st Lt. Philip Parker, a spokesman for MCAS Iwakuni, to Stars and Stripes. Parker said a family member employed by the Defense Department has resigned that position; Parker declined to identify the organization.

Earlier reports about the incident indicated a family of three; however, only three of the four family members tested positive for coronavirus, according to the release.

Defense Minister Taro Kono singled out the family at a news

conference July 15 and called on the U.S. to tighten up its coronavirus testing and isolation procedures.

Kono said the family gave false information about its travel plans. He also cited the U.S. practice, afterwards curtailed, of housing military personnel newly arrived on Okinawa in an off-base hotel during their 14-day mandated quarantine.

At the time, U.S. personnel arriving at air bases in Japan were subject to quarantine but were not tested unless they experienced symptoms.

Not long after Kono's statement, USFJ ordered anyone affiliated with the U.S. military, including service members, Defense Department civilian employees, contractors and family members, to test free of the virus before exiting quarantine.

The family's ban, or "debarment," followed a misconduct hearing Aug. 7, one day after the four were medically cleared. They spent 24 days of isolation in



AKIFUMI ISHIKAWA/Stars and Stripes

A flight takes off on March 18 from Haneda International Airport in central Tokyo. A family that arrived at the airport in July violated Japan's Quarantine Act and have been barred from all U.S. military installations for 10 years.

their base home, according to the statement.

The Marine statement indicated the family arrived at Haneda via a commercial flight from the United States. From Haneda, Japanese authorities cleared them to travel directly to their quarantine site, but not on public transportation. The next day they took the commercial flight to Iwakuni.

At the air station, they did not immediately enter quarantine, a violation of USFJ and base orders. The three learned their

positive test results after entering quarantine, according to the Marines.

Contact tracing found no contacts linked to the family on the air station; of six traced off the station, none apparently contracted the virus, according to the Marines.

"While deeply regrettable, this incident caused no additional cases of COVID-19 within Japan," the statement said.

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Afghan president names members of peace council

By RAHIM FAIEZ
Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — Afghanistan's president has appointed a council for national reconciliation, which will have final say on whether the government will sign a peace deal with the Taliban after what are expected to be protracted and uncertain negotiations with the insurgents.

The negotiations were envisaged under a U.S.-Taliban peace agreement signed in February as intra-Afghan talks to decide

the war-torn country's future. However, their start has been hampered by a series of delays that have frustrated Washington. Some had expected the negotiations to begin earlier this month.

Afghan President Ashraf Ghani issued a decree late Saturday establishing the 46-member council, led by his former rival in last year's presidential election, Abdullah Abdullah, who is now in the government.

The council is separate from a 21-member negotiating team, which Ghani appointed in March

and which is expected to travel to the Gulf Arab state of Qatar, where the Taliban maintain a political office, for intra-Afghan talks.

The council will have the final say and will ultimately decide on the points that the negotiating team takes up with the Taliban.

Abdullah's appointment to head the reconciliation efforts followed a power-sharing deal he signed in May with Ghani to end the political deadlock after last year's election — a vote in which Abdullah had also declared himself a

winner.

The High Council for National Reconciliation is made up of an array of Afghan political figures, including current and former officials, and nine women representatives, one of whom was named Abdullah's deputy.

The establishment of the council may not sit well with the Taliban, who have appointed just one 20-member negotiating team that has the authority to make final decisions. The Taliban team answers only to the insurgents' leader, Mullah Hibatullah

Akhunzada.

There are also other obstacles in the way of the negotiations. The Afghan government has reversed a decision to release the last 32 Taliban prisoners it is holding until the insurgents free more captured soldiers.

The U.S.-Taliban deal called on the Taliban to free 1,000 government and military personnel they had captive while the government was to free 5,000 Taliban prisoners, in an exchange meant as a goodwill gesture ahead of the intra-Afghan negotiations.



ARIEL SCHALIT/AP

Firefighters attempt to extinguish a fire started by an incendiary device launched from the Gaza Strip on Aug. 24 in Kibbutz Kfar Aza on the border with Gaza. Militants affiliated with Hamas have launched scores of incendiary balloons into southern Israel in recent weeks in a bid to pressure Israel to ease the blockade imposed after Hamas took control of the territory in 2007.

Israel responds with tank strikes to explosive balloons from Gaza

Associated Press

JERUSALEM — The Israeli military said it struck militant targets in Gaza early Sunday in response to continued launches of explosives-laden balloons out of the Hamas-run territory.

There were no immediate reports of casualties on either side. But the violence comes at a time when Gaza is struggling with a worsening economic crisis and a new outbreak of the coronavirus.

Hamas-linked groups have launched a wave of incendiary balloons into Israel in recent weeks, torching wide swaths of farmland. Israel has responded with airstrikes and other attacks. The army said Sunday's tank fire struck Hamas' "military

posts" in southern Gaza, without elaborating.

Hamas is pressing Israel to ease its blockade on Gaza and allow large-scale development projects. Egypt and Qatar are trying to shore up an informal cease-fire.

Those efforts have grown more urgent in recent days as authorities in Gaza have detected the first cases of local transmission of the coronavirus. Hamas has imposed a lockdown in the coastal territory bordering Israel and Egypt, which is home to 2 million Palestinians.

Israel and Egypt imposed a blockade on Gaza after Hamas seized power from rival Palestinian forces in 2007. Israel says the blockade is needed to keep Hamas from building up its arse-

nal, but critics view it as a form of collective punishment. Israel and Hamas have fought three wars and several smaller battles since the closure was imposed.

The restrictions have pushed the local economy to the brink of collapse, and years of war and isolation have left the health care system ill-equipped to cope with a major outbreak.

In response to the recent attacks, Israel closed Gaza's sole commercial crossing, forcing its only power station to shut down for lack of fuel and leaving Gazans with just a few hours of electricity a day. Israel has also closed the coastal territory's fishing zone.

The U.N.'s Mideast envoy, Nikolay Mladenov, recently warned the situation is "rapidly deteriorating."

VIRUS OUTBREAK

India has world's biggest single-day count

BY SHEIKH SAALIQ
Associated Press

NEW DELHI — India registered 78,761 new coronavirus cases on Sunday, the biggest single-day spike in the world since the pandemic began, just as the government began easing restrictions to help the battered economy.

The surge raised India's tally to over 3.5 million and came as the government announced the reopening of the subway in New Delhi, the capital. It also will move ahead with limited sports and religious events next month.

A country of 1.4 billion people, India now has the fastest-growing daily coronavirus caseload of any country in the world, reporting more than 75,000 new cases for four straight days.

One of the reasons is testing: India now conducts nearly 1 million tests every day, compared with just 200,000 two months ago.

A significant feature of India's COVID-19 management, however, is the growing rate of recovered patients. On Sunday, the recovery rate reached nearly 76.5%.

The Health Ministry credited



BIKAS DAS/AP

Muslims wearing face masks beat drums during a Muharram procession in Kolkata, India, on Sunday.

its strategic policy of "testing aggressively, tracking comprehensively and treating efficiently" in supervised home isolation and hospitals.

But COVID-19 fatalities continue to mount and soon India will have the third-largest death toll, after the United States and Brazil, even though it has had

far fewer deaths than those two countries.

India is now reporting around 1,000 COVID-19 deaths every day. So far, more than 63,000 In-

dians have died from the disease.

Even as eight states remain among the worst-hit regions and contribute nearly 73% of the total infections, the virus is now spreading fast in the vast hinterlands, with health experts warning that September could be the most challenging month yet. Early last week, members of a small secluded tribe in the remote Andaman and Nicobar Islands tested positive for the coronavirus.

So far, the biggest contributor to the new surge has been the western state of Maharashtra, home to the commercial capital of Mumbai. It alone has accounted for more than 24,000 deaths and nearly 21% of all cases.

India's economy — the fifth largest in the world — has been severely hit by the pandemic. But despite the surging cases, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his team have been pushing for a return to normalcy to ease the pain.

The federal government on Saturday said the crowded subway, a lifeline for millions of people in New Delhi, will reopen gradually starting Sept. 7. Schools, colleges and movie theaters will remain closed until the end of September.

Virus concerns force US election officials to get creative

Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — The coronavirus has upended everyday life in ways big and small. What happens when those disruptions overlap with voting? Thousands of state and local election officials across the U.S. are sharing ideas and making accommodations to try to ensure that voters and polling places are safe amid an unprecedented pandemic.

Here are virus-related obstacles voters could face during this unprecedented presidential election year along with some of the solutions being tried:

Closures and curtailed hours

What if you need a voter registration form or absentee ballot application and all the normal go-to places are closed or open by appointment only? It's a problem

nationwide.

The most recent American Library Association survey found that 62% of U.S. libraries, which are sources for voting documents, were fully closed while another 26% were offering only curbside service. Likewise, the vast majority of state motor vehicle departments are operating on limited hours, at reduced capacity or by appointment only, according to the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators.

Benjamin Hovland, chairman of the U.S. Election Assistance Commission, said 40 states have online voter registration, a particular benefit during the pandemic.

Among states, Ohio has earned points for its creativity. Republican Secretary of State Frank LaRose struck partnerships with grocers and newspapers to distribute absentee ballot applications this spring, and he's tapped breweries to promote voter registration

in the fall: "Beer drinking and democracy go together," he said of the program.

Polling place contamination

Perhaps the most pressing worry of most voters is how polling places will be kept virus-free. A CDC study conducted after Wisconsin's primary, the first in-person election after states began issuing stay-at-home orders, found 37 of the state's new COVID-19 cases in the days after the election were among voters, a warning to other states.

As an example of how seriously they're responding, California issued 50 pages of instructions to its election boards last month calling for site-specific virus prevention plans and extensive training. That's on top of CDC-recommended guidelines that include social distancing, wearing masks and frequent hand-washing.

Voters might see Plexiglas shields at some check-in tables, and poll workers dressed head-to-toe in protective gear. Voting machines and poll books will be sanitized on a regular schedule throughout the day.

What about unmasked voters?

What if you, or a fellow voter, choose not to wear a mask, as election and health officials are pretty much universally recommending?

States are mostly stopping short of requiring masks on Election Day because voting is a protected right. The most common scenario envisioned is that voters who decline to wear a mask will be offered one. If they refuse it, they'll be directed to a voting station away from other voters, where possible. In some locations, no other voters would be allowed inside until the person has voted.

German leaders condemn far-right attempt to storm parliament building

Associated Press

BERLIN — Senior German officials on Sunday condemned attempts by far-right protesters and others to storm the parliament building following a protest against the country's pandemic restrictions.

Hundreds of people, some waving the flag of the German Reich of 1871-1918 and other far-right banners, breached a security barrier outside the Reichstag late

Saturday but were intercepted by police and forcibly removed.

"Reich flags and right-wing extremist provocations in front of the German Bundestag are an unbearable attack on the heart of our democracy," Germany's president, Frank-Walter Steinmeier, said Sunday. "We will never accept this."

Steinmeier said people had the right to express their anger about the coronavirus restrictions and to question them publicly, includ-

ing demonstrations.

"My sympathy ends where protesters allow themselves to be used by enemies of democracy and political agitators," he added.

Police used pepper spray to drive back the protesters, who earlier in the day had participated in a large rally through the capital.

About 300 people were arrested in front of the Reichstag and following an incident at the Russian embassy, according to police.



CHRISTOPH SOEDER, DPA/AP

Police officers push away a crowd of demonstrators from the square 'Platz der Republik' in front of the Reichstag building Saturday during a demonstration against coronavirus measures in Berlin, Germany.

VIRUS OUTBREAK

College towns alarmed over student outbreaks

BY BRYAN ANDERSON, JIM SALTER
AND LINDSAY WHITEHURST

Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — As waves of schools and businesses around the country are cleared to reopen, college towns are moving toward renewed shutdowns because of too many parties and too many COVID-19 infections among students.

With more than 300 students at the University of Missouri testing positive for the coronavirus and an alarming 44% positivity rate for the surrounding county, the local health director Friday ordered bars to stop serving alcohol at 9 p.m. and close by 10 p.m.

Iowa's governor has ordered all bars shut down around The University of Iowa and Iowa State, while the mayor of Tuscaloosa, Ala., did the same in the hometown of the state's flagship university.

"What we're seeing in our violations is they're coming late at night," said Stephanie Browning, head of the health department for Columbia, Mo. "Big groups gathering. They're not wearing their masks; they're not social distancing."

In Utah, the city council in Provo overrode a mayoral veto to pass a mask mandate, which includes a \$500 fine for organizing large mask-less gatherings, days before students return to Brigham Young University from around the country.

But the council was nevertheless worried that college students sharing dorms, bathrooms and showers could become "super-spreaders" and bring the virus off campus, council chair George Handley said.

"We're already seeing what's happened across the country at other universities," he said.

But a recent warehouse party organized by a BYU student's promotional company called Young/Dumb also raised concern



Matthew Newkirk and Thomas Jamison play video games in Newkirk's dorm room on the University of Missouri campus Aug. 18 in Columbia, Mo.

OWEN ZILIAK, (COLUMBIA, MO.) MISSOURIAN/AP

when pictures of hundreds of revelers without masks surfaced online.

BYU, owned by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, has its own rules requiring masks on campus. Requirements for indoor public spaces in town will help people stay healthy and businesses stay open, Handley said.

"This is actually about preserving our way of life, it's not about destroying it — contrary to what some people say," Handley said.

The outbreaks since students began returning to campus in the past few weeks have heightened tensions between colleges and their towns and led to recriminations

between local politicians and university officials.

Surging infection numbers around the U.S. have been blamed in part on young people ignoring mask and social distancing requirements.

In Iowa's Story County, home to Iowa State, 74% of new cases over the past seven days were among people ages 19 to 24. Gov. Kim Reynolds said Thursday. In the same time period, 69% of new cases in Johnson County, the home of the University of Iowa, were in that age group.

"It is increasing the virus activity in the community, and it's spilling over to other segments of the population," Reynolds

said.

Three of North Carolina's largest public universities have abruptly halted in-person undergraduate instruction and directed students to move out of the dorms after hundreds tested positive following their return to campus. More than 800 have been infected at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and over 670 at North Carolina State.

Leaders at UNC-Chapel Hill, which has shifted to online classes, wrote an open letter Thursday to the mayor outlining steps the university is taking to curb off-campus parties.

"We recognize the very real problems with the behaviors of some of our fraternities and sororities," the letter said.

Oyeronike Popoda, a 17-year-old freshman at UNC-Chapel Hill who moved out of her dorm, said that administrators, not students, deserve most of the blame for the virus-related problems after they ushered students back to campus.

"They should've put everything online from the beginning, but they wanted the money," she said.

The problems did not change the thinking of other schools around the country.

The University of Virginia announced Friday that it is moving ahead with plans to offer in-person instruction for the fall semester, after delaying the start of classes for two weeks to assess the spread of COVID-19.

"We know some will be delighted to hear this news and others will be disappointed," a university statement said. "To be frank, it was a very difficult decision, made in the face of much uncertainty, and with full awareness that future events may force us to change course."

Search for love persists virtually, even amid quarantine

BY LEANNE ITALIE
Associated Press

NEW YORK — If there's one thing the pandemic hasn't canceled, it's the search for love.

Throughout the health emergency, daters have taken to apps, websites and matchmaking services in search of connection, with more meeting in person as the crisis drags on at a time when every touch is calculated and fraught.

Some daters insist on safety precautions before leaping into offline meetups. Others take no precautions, relying on mutual trust. A lucky few are on the ultimate step, marriage.

In March, the popular dating app Hinge experienced a 30% increase over January and February in messages sent among users. In June, compared to the same month last year, there was a 13% increase in the number of dates — virtual and in person — in the U.S. and U.K., said Logan Ury, chief researcher for the app.

"Daters are feeling creative. They're feeling resilient, and they're not willing to put a year of their life on hold because of the global pandemic," Ury said.

Look no further than Jordan and Brittany Tyler in Allegan,

Mich., as evidence of that.

Jordan, an adjunct professor of communications at Western Michigan University, and Brittany, who supervises a program for autistic youth, had both been divorced about a year when the pandemic hit. Neither had dated online before they signed up for Match.com.

"When the lockdown happened an alert went off on my phone and it sounded liked 'The Purge' or something," Brittany laughed. "I thought, 'I'm going to die alone!'"

Both had dated their exes for several years before marrying. Not this time.

The two started texting March 18. They were wed by July after spending much of quarantine together after a romantic date March 24 at Jordan's place.

Jordan's winning line when they hopped from text to the physical world?

"I said, 'Hey, if you come have dinner with me I've stocked up on toilet paper. I'll give you a free roll,'" he joked. "It was worth the risk."

For two New Yorkers, real-estate agent Gordon von Broock, 53, and hair colorist Alix Mane, 34, pandemic love didn't start with a dating service. He had been her Instagram crush since late last



Realtor Gordon von Broock, left, and hair colorist Alix Mane pose for a portrait in New York in July. The couple, who are now engaged, had their first Zoom date at the end of April. It lasted seven hours.

year and the two had exchanged casual messages.

By March, he was a COVID-19 survivor. She spotted a video he put up on Instagram as he regained his strength.

Their first Zoom date at the end of April lasted seven hours. They progressed to real life and they're now engaged.

"I've been divorced twice and have four children. If we weren't in the COVID-19 situation, know-

ing that Gordon had never been married, was 53 years old and never had children would be kind of a little red flag for me. I would have been a red flag for him," she said. "But we got right to the point."

Dowoon Kang, co-founder of another popular dating app, Coffee Meets Bagel, said the company's "slow dating" approach, in contrast to endless swiping, seems to appeal to users during

the pandemic. The bulk of the app's users are between 25 and 39 years old.

"We're seeing an all-time chat rate," Kang said. "In mid-March, after the lockdowns, 90% plus of our daters told us they had completely stopped going on dates in person."

During brainstorming sessions with users since the pandemic began, Kang learned that many yearned for community and a way to ease their loneliness, regardless of whether that led to dates. In response, Coffee Meets Bagel added twice-weekly Zoom meetups of 50 to 100 people from late April to late June.

In Washington, D.C., 25-year-old communications consultant Carlos Zavala has been spending time on Tinder and Bumble but has yet to go on a date in person. He had stopped using the sites in December, but reactivated his account in April because: "I was going stir crazy being home with the family."

"I've seen that our conversations do get more personal faster than usual," Zavala said. "In the beginning, I considered not dating, but then I realized that actually is making a lot of people be more real with what they want and cuts through all the b.s."

VIRUS OUTBREAK ROUNDUP

Kansas fraternities and sororities hit hard by COVID-19

Associated Press

LAWRENCE — The coronavirus is hitting fraternities and sororities in Kansas particularly hard, with 10% testing positive at the University of Kansas and outbreaks linked to four sororities at Kansas State University.

The University of Kansas said in a news release that it has conducted 21,719 tests and 474 have been positive, for a positive rate of 2.18%. But among sororities and fraternities, there have been 270 positives among 2,698 members tested.

The university began testing every student, faculty and staff member for COVID-19 as they returned to campus this month.

At Kansas State, health officials announced six cases at Alpha Delta Pi, six at Alpha Xi Delta, five at Chi Omega and five at Kappa Delta, The Kansas City Star reported. The cases have resulted in quarantines.

Arkansas

LITTLE ROCK — Arkansas reported at least 795 new cases Saturday of the coronavirus, as well as 16 new deaths from the illness.

Of those new cases, 108 were found in the state's correctional system, according to the Department of Health.

The new cases push the Arkansas total past 60,000 to at least 60,378 since tracking of the outbreak began in March, with a death toll of 772.

The department said 5,473 cases are currently active and not among those who have died or recovered, while 384 are hospitalized, 23 fewer than Friday.

The testing positivity rate sits at 9%, compared to the 5% threshold set by the World Health Organization for a pandemic.

Connecticut

Officials at University of Connecticut said 57 students who have tested positive for COVID-19 are in isolation as university officials welcome back its 5,000 residential students.

The university's latest figures as of Saturday showed that 1.14% of residential students are currently positive for the virus. So far, 69 students have tested positive while 10 have recovered.

Students began returning to campus Aug. 14. All were tested for the virus and all were supposed to limit their contact with others during their first 14 days back.

By Aug. 18, university officials announced they had evicted several students from on-campus housing after learning of a crowded dormitory room party with no

mask-wearing or social distancing in violation of the school's coronavirus rules. At that point, eight students had tested positive and were being isolated.

Contact tracers are investigating the latest new cases at the university. Two of the university's more than 3,000 faculty and staff members have tested positive.

Florida

MIAMI — Health officials in Florida reported 150 new deaths from COVID-19 and 3,197 new confirmed cases as the positivity rate continued to drop in the state.

The new deaths raised the total death toll to 11,246 deaths. They bring the average daily toll reported over the past week to 120.

The number of new known cases is down from peaks averaging nearly 12,000 daily in mid-July.

The positivity rate in testing has averaged below 10% over the past week while the number of people being treated in Florida hospitals for COVID-19 has also been declining to about 3,800 since highs of more than 9,500 on July 23.

South Carolina

COLUMBIA — South Carolina's streak of 13 days with less than 1,000 reported coronavirus cases is over, according to The State newspaper.

The state's Department of Health and Environmental Control reported 1,250 new coronavirus cases Saturday, bringing the total number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the state to more than 15,500.

More than 2,500 people in South Carolina have died from the virus.

The percent of positive tests announced Saturday also climbed to 20.5%, the second time in a week that it's been more than 20%, the state said.

Texas

AUSTIN — Texas reported 4,732 new confirmed cases of the coronavirus Saturday, along with 154 new deaths from the disease.

The new coronavirus cases reported Friday pushed the overall number of cases for the six-month Texas outbreak to at least 606,530, the Texas Department of State Health Services said. Of those, the state said its estimate of the number of active cases fell by almost 3,500 to 101,189, and the confirmed number of COVID-19 patients hospitalized fell by 67 to 154.

The overall COVID-19 death toll for the Texas outbreak rose to 12,266.

The overall COVID-19 death toll for the Texas outbreak rose to 12,266.



Hundreds of photos contributed by families were staked at Belle Isle State Park on Saturday in Detroit. A memorial drive is planned for Monday to honor 1,500 city residents who have died from COVID-19. Mayor Mike Duggan declared the day as Detroit Memorial Day to remember residents who didn't have the funerals that they deserved due to the coronavirus pandemic.

The rolling seven-day average of the rate of positive tests has fallen from 16% a week ago to 12.16% as of Friday, the most recent rate reported by the state. Gov. Greg Abbott has set a 10% positivity rate as a target, and the World Health Organization has set 5% as the threshold for the end of the pandemic.

The rolling seven-day average of tests administered was 37,200 as of Friday, however, down from 40,400 the day before and well below the 63,900 average of Aug. 18.

Washington

PULLMAN — The number of coronavirus cases in Whitman County has nearly tripled in the past week, one of the highest growth rates in the nation.

The county is home to Washington State University, and students have been pouring into Pullman in the past week for the start of the school year.

The Spokesman-Review reported that the county's COVID-19 case count rose to 422 on Saturday.

The county said in a press release that of the 58 new positive cases reported in the county Saturday, 22 were in people 19 or younger and 36 were in people age 20 to 39.

Nevada

CARSON CITY — Nevada is reporting 609 additional coronavirus cases and 15 deaths.

The Nevada Department of Health and Human Services released the latest COVID-19 sta-

tistics Saturday.

The statewide totals most recently stood at 68,461 cases and 1,302 deaths since the start of the pandemic.

The number of newly confirmed cases reported daily has decreased since peaking above 1,400 on July 15, a trend that officials attribute, at least partially, to the state's face-covering mandate and limits on large gatherings. But the number of tests reported has decreased week-by-week as well, from more than 49,000 in the third week in July to less than 27,000 last week.

Meanwhile, a student at the College of Southern Nevada and an employee at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas have tested positive for COVID-19. Both schools confirmed the infections. The UNLV staff member is the fourth person at the school to test positive since school began earlier this week.

Oklahoma

OKLAHOMA CITY — Oklahoma has nearly 1,100 new confirmed cases of the coronavirus and 11 new deaths from the illness, the Oklahoma State Health Department reported Saturday.

The new cases the department reported Saturday raised the total for the six-month outbreak to 57,553 cases, while the deaths raised the state's outbreak toll to 797.

The true number of cases in Oklahoma is likely higher because many people have not been tested, and studies have suggested that people can be infected and not feel sick.

Iowa

IOWA CITY — One of the largest school districts in Iowa is starting the school year with online-only instruction.

KRCG reports that the Iowa City school board voted Saturday to conduct all classes virtually for the first two weeks. Classes in the 12,000-student district begin on Sept. 8.

The move comes after the state granted the district a waiver earlier in the week allowing for the virtual instruction. The 14-day average positivity rate in Johnson County, where the district is located, was 13.9% on Wednesday but had risen to 21.1% by Saturday.

The positivity threshold Gov. Kim Reynolds has established for schools to seek online learning instead of required classroom lessons is 15%.

Extracurricular activities, like sports, must be suspended for the duration of the two-week waiver.

South Dakota

PIERRE — South Dakota health officials Saturday reported 425 new cases of the coronavirus and two new deaths.

The state has now had a total of nearly 13,000 cases of COVID-19 as of Saturday. There were 2,428 cases still active.

With the new deaths reported Saturday, South Dakota's death toll from the disease has risen to 167.

The South Dakota Department of Health has reported 10,347 recoveries from the disease, and a total of 79 people who are currently hospitalized.

NATION

Trump to visit Kenosha, potentially stoking tensions

BY JILL COLVIN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump will travel to Kenosha, Wis., on Tuesday, amid fury over the police shooting of Jacob Blake in the back, which left the 29-year-old Black man paralyzed.

White House spokesman Judd Deere told reporters aboard Air Force One on Saturday that Trump will be meeting with law enforcement officers and "surveying" some of the damage from recent protests that turned destructive.

The visit is certain to exacerbate tensions in the city, where a crowd of about 1,000 demonstrators gathered outside a courthouse Saturday to denounce police violence.

Trump has been running his reelection campaign on a law-and-order mantle, denouncing protesters as "thugs" while voicing his support for police.

In his acceptance speech during the virtual Republican National Convention, Trump painted the election in hyperbolic terms as a stark choice between peaceful streets and anarchy.

Trump's opponent for reelection, former Vice President Joe Biden, and his running mate, Kamala Harris, have accused Trump of rooting for violence amid unrest in Wisconsin.

"He views this as a political benefit," Biden said in an interview on MSNBC. "He's rooting for more violence, not less. And it's clear about that."

Kenosha Police Officer Rusten Sheskey and two other officers were respond-



ALEX BRANDON/AP

President Donald Trump gives a thumbs up while walking to Air Force One upon departure at Chennault International Airport on Saturday in Lake Charles, La.

ing to a domestic dispute call last Sunday when Sheskey shot Blake in the back seven times.

Cellphone video captured the shooting, which has sparked new protests against racial injustice and police brutality months

after George Floyd's death at the hands of a Minneapolis officer touched off a wider reckoning on race.

Clash: Demonstrators continue fighting in Portland after fatal shooting

FROM FRONT PAGE

Lovell said.

Portland has been the site of nightly protests for more than three months since the police killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis. Many of them have ended in vandalism and violence, and hundreds of demonstrators have been arrested by local and federal law enforcement since late May.

In the two hours following the shooting, protesters gathered downtown and there was sporadic fighting and vandalism, police said. Some gave speeches in Lownsdale Square Park before the protest petered out. Ten people were arrested, police said.

The caravan had arrived downtown just as a planned protest was getting underway. The chaotic scene came two days after Trump invoked Portland as a liberal city overrun with violence in a speech at the Republican National Convention as part of his "law and order" re-election campaign theme. The caravan marked the third Saturday in a row that Trump supporters have rallied in the city.

On Sunday, Trump issued a flurry of tweets and retweets including several that blamed Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler for the death and one in which the president appeared to be encouraging his supporters to move into Portland.



PAULA BRONSTEIN/AP

A man is treated after being shot Saturday in Portland, Ore.

"GREAT PATRIOTS!" Trump wrote as he shared video of his supporters driving into Portland to confront the protesters.

Acting Homeland Security Secretary Chad Wolf blamed local officials for failing "to protect their communities."

"I'm asking Portland officials, so that's the mayor, that's the

governor and that's local law enforcement, to do their job to address any violent activity that is occurring in their streets," Wolf told CBS' "Face the Nation."

Trump and other speakers at last week's Republican convention evoked a violent, dystopian future if Democratic presidential hopeful Joe Biden wins in November.

ber and pointed to Portland as a cautionary tale for what would be in store for Americans.

The pro-Trump rally's organizer, who recently coordinated a similar caravan in Boise, Idaho, said in a Twitter video posted Saturday afternoon that attendees should only carry concealed weapons and the route was being

kept secret for safety reasons.

The caravan had gathered earlier in the day at a suburban mall and drove as a group to the heart of Portland. As they arrived in the city, protesters attempted to stop them by standing in the street and blocking bridges.

Videos from the scene showed sporadic fighting, as well as Trump supporters firing paintball pellets at opponents and using bear spray as counter-protesters threw things at the Trump caravan.

The Black Lives Matter demonstrations usually target police buildings and federal buildings. Some protesters have called for reductions in police budgets while the city's mayor and some in the Black community have decried the violence, saying it's counterproductive.

Early Saturday morning, fires set outside a police union building that has been a frequent site for protests prompted police to declare a riot.

An accelerant was used to ignite a mattress and other debris that was laid against the door of the Portland Police Association building, police said in a statement. At least one dumpster had also been set on fire in the street nearby.

The commotion followed a sit-in in the lobby of the Portland mayor's condominium building Friday night.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Ownership of lighthouse is up for grabs

RI WESTERLY — One of Westerly's most recognizable landmarks is available for any qualified organization willing to take care of it.

The U.S. Coast Guard wrote to the state Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission this month to inform it that the Watch Hill Lighthouse was in "excess to the needs of the Coast Guard" and was posted for transfer to the federal General Services Administration, The Sun of Westerly reported.

Under provisions of the federal lighthouse act, the National Park Service will provide applications to interested parties and review and evaluate the applications. If a transfer of ownership is approved, the new owner will be required to maintain the lighthouse in accordance with federal standards.

Thief steals car with sleeping toddler inside

OH DAYTON — A toddler who was sleeping in the backseat of a car stolen from a Dayton gas station was found unharmed when a passing motorist spotted her strapped in her car seat in some brush along the side of a city street, authorities said.

The car was stolen when the child's father stopped at the station to use an ATM. The thief drove off, apparently unaware the child was in the backseat, authorities said.

The child was found about 30 minutes later and was soon reunited with her family.

The car thief remained at large. The stolen vehicle has not been recovered.

Hundreds of subway windows were smashed

NY NEW YORK — Authorities were on the hunt for a vandal who said he smashed hundreds of windows on New York City subway trains.

More than 400 windows were damaged since May, costing nearly \$400,000 to fix and all but exhausting supplies of replacement windows, the city's transit agency said.

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority and the police department this week announced a \$12,500 reward for information leading to an arrest.

Police released photos and video last week of a possible suspect — a man wearing a white tank top, gray pants, beige hat and blue surgical mask.

Cottage with private beach for sale for \$20M

NV GLENBROOK — A Lake Tahoe cottage with a private beach is on the market for nearly \$20 million.

The 1,688-square-foot cottage comes with 2 acres, including a private 170-foot beach with a private pier, according to the Reno Gazette-Journal.

The modest home was built in 1956 on Tahoe's eastern shore in the community of Glenbrook.



ELAINE THOMPSON/AP

Baby's first nasal swab

Quentin Brown, 1, is held by his mother, Heather Brown, as he eyes a swab while being tested for COVID-19 at a new walk-up testing site at Chief Sealth High School in Seattle. The child's daycare facility requires testing for the virus. The coronavirus testing site is the fourth now open by the city and is free.

Jeann Merkelbach of the Engel & Volkers real estate agency said the land is the value of the property and that the cottage would probably be demolished to build another home.

Tanker crash spills 3,000 gallons of fuel

WY YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK — A trailer hauling unleaded gasoline spilled about 3,000 gallons of the fuel after overturning in Yellowstone National Park while en route to a delivery, park officials said.

There was no evidence any gasoline entered the nearby Yellowstone River, officials said.

The tandem trailer being hauled by a tanker truck overturned between Fishing Bridge and Mud Volcano in an area where the Grand Loop Road runs near the Yellowstone River, park officials said.

Autopsy: Man died when caught in recycling truck

KS TOPEKA — A Topeka man whose body was found among recycling materials at a landfill building apparently was inside a dumpster when its contents were put into the back of a recycling truck, officials said.

Paul Vigil, 62, died March 9 from several injuries suffered in a cardboard recycler accident,

THE CENSUS

\$10K

The minimum bid set for a lock of Abraham Lincoln's hair, wrapped in a bloodstained telegram about his 1865 assassination that is up for auction. Boston-based RR Auction said bidding has opened online for the items ahead of a live auction on Sept. 12 in New Hampshire. The auction house expects the lock and telegram to fetch \$75,000 or more, spokesman Mike Graff said. Measuring roughly 2 inches long, the bushy lock of hair was removed during Lincoln's post-mortem examination after he was fatally shot at Ford's Theatre in Washington by John Wilkes Booth.

according to an autopsy made public, The Topeka Capital-Journal reported.

Vigil's body was found by employees among recycling materials inside a landfill building.

An autopsy by Shawnee County Coroner John Ralston found Vigil suffered gaping cuts to his left back and left upper chest and fractures to his skull, long bones, several axial skeleton and multiple ribs. Several of Vigil's organs, including his heart, lungs and spleen, were absent when the autopsy was conducted.

Vigil's blood-alcohol level when he died 0.08%, the legal limit for intoxication in Kansas.

Man hurt after crashing small plane on highway

AZ TUSAYAN — The Conino County Sheriff's Office said a 24-year-old man was injured when the engine on the small plane he was flying

died, causing him to crash on a highway near the entrance to the Grand Canyon.

The sheriff's office said the man suffered neck and back injuries after trying to land on the highway but crashing into a light pole, which caused the plane to crash and flip over. The plane temporarily blocked traffic on the highway.

Man allegedly stole school bus to get home

NY AVON — A New York man was charged with criminal possession of stolen property after sheriff's deputies said he stole a school bus in Pennsylvania to drive home.

Justin Freedmon reportedly stole a school bus and drove back to Avon, according to a statement from Livingston County Sheriff Thomas J. Dougherty.

Sheriff's deputies responded to a suspicious condition complaint

for a bus with Pennsylvania license plates. Authorities contacted the bus company in Sarver, Pa., to confirm if the bus was supposed to be in Avon; it was not.

Bears crash kitchen and get snacks, stern words

MT BILLINGS — When something black and furry scurried into the TV room of Kathy Kenyon's house in Red Lodge, her thought was it might be the neighbor's dog.

But when she stepped into the doorway to the kitchen to investigate, she saw the intruder was a mother black bear and her two cubs. They had pushed out a screen in a partly opened window and crawled in to dine on freshly bought peaches and Hershey's chocolates.

When her husband, Don Redfoot, went to investigate, he stepped around the corner and came face to face with momma bear and quickly retreated.

Kenyon decided to clap and yell at the bears to see if she could scare them back outside. The mother bear jumped out the open window, but the cubs lingered while eating the chocolates. With some prodding, they eventually left through the window.

The bears stayed outside the window for a while before leaving. They also returned the next day but didn't gain entry this time.

From wire reports

NATION

Trump surveys storm damage in La. and Texas

By JILL COLVIN
Associated Press

LAKE CHARLES, La. — President Donald Trump got a first-hand look Saturday at the damage from Hurricane Laura on a post-Republican National Convention trip.

His stops, first in Louisiana and later in Texas, came two days after the Category 4 storm slammed the Gulf Coast, leaving at least 16 dead and wreaking havoc with severe winds and flooding. While the storm surge has receded and the cleanup effort has begun, hundreds of thousands remain without power or water, and they could for weeks to come as the hot summer stretches on.

"I'm here to support the great

people of Louisiana. It's been a great state for me," he said in Lake Charles. "It was a tremendously powerful storm." He said he knows one thing about the state: "They rebuild it fast."

During the two hours he spent in the city, Trump met with officials and relief workers but not with any of the residents whose homes had been ripped apart in the storm.

He did, however, get a good look at the extensive damage and the debris strewn across the city of 80,000 people, beginning with the bird's-eye view from Air Force One as it came in for a landing.

His first stop was a warehouse being used as a staging area for the Cajun Navy, a group of Louisiana volunteers who help with



ALEX BRANDON/AP

President Donald Trump, center, listens as Louisiana Gov. John Bel Edwards, second from right, speaks as he surveys damage from Hurricane Laura on Saturday in Lake Charles, La.

search and rescue after hurricanes and floods. "Good job," Trump told them.

Trump then toured a neighborhood with Gov. John Bel Edwards and acting Homeland Security Secretary Chad Wolf, making his way down a street blocked by felled trees and where houses were battered by the storm, one with its entire roof torn off.

The president then flew by heli-

copter to Orange, Texas, which was the worst-hit area in the state. Several hundred supporters greeted his arrival with Trump 2020 flags, banners and signs. Among the officials on hand were Texas Gov. Greg Abbott and U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas. Before a flyover to view damaged areas, Trump and other officials visited the emergency operations center in Orange County to discuss

storm damage and the government response. He was flying back to Washington Saturday evening.

Laura, which packed 150-mph winds and a storm surge as high as 15 feet, toppled trees and damaged buildings as far north as central Arkansas. More than 580,000 coastal residents evacuated in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic.

Official: Congress will receive election intel in writing only

By ELLEN NAKASHIMA
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Senior intelligence officials will no longer brief Congress in person on foreign interference in the 2020 election. Instead, they will inform lawmakers of threats in writing, the Office of the Director of National Intelligence said Saturday.

The decision, made with Director of National Intelligence John Ratcliffe's assent, arose out of concerns that briefings to lawmakers have resulted in leaks of classified information, an ODNI official said.

But the change threatens to undermine the community's pledge to be transparent

with Congress and the public at a time when three foreign adversaries, including Russia, are seeking to influence the American political process.

"I believe this approach helps ensure ... that the information ODNI provides to Congress ... is not misunderstood or politicized," Ratcliffe wrote in letters to congressional leadership, including the chairman and vice-chairmen of the House and Senate intelligence panels.

"It will also better protect our sources and methods and most sensitive intelligence from additional unauthorized disclosures or misuse," he wrote. The development was first reported by CNN.

Democrats, led by House Speaker Nancy

Pelosi of California, immediately cried foul.

"This is a shocking abdication of its lawful responsibility to keep the Congress currently informed, and a betrayal of the public's right to know how foreign powers are trying to subvert our democracy," she said in a joint statement with Rep. Adam Schiff, D-Calif., who chairs the House Intelligence Committee.

"The ODNI had requested the opportunity to brief the intelligence committees and the full U.S. House of Representatives in mid-September and has now cancelled those briefings and said it would hold no others," the pair wrote. "This is shameful and — coming only weeks before the

election — demonstrates that the Trump Administration is engaged in a politicized effort to withhold election-related information from Congress and the American people."

In a briefing Saturday, White House Chief of Staff Mark Meadows defended the decision.

"It really comes down to one simple thing: The last time they gave briefings, a few members went out and talked to the press and disclosed information they shouldn't have," Meadows said, adding that the written briefings "will make sure that there are proper tools for oversight" but there don't "jeopardize sources and methods for the intel we get."

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STARS AND STRIPES



WORLD

Restaurant collapse in northern China kills 29

Associated Press

BEIJING— Rescue efforts ended at a two-story restaurant in a northern Chinese village that collapsed during a local resident's 80th birthday celebration, leaving 29 people dead, authorities said Sunday.

The Ministry of Emergency Management said another 28 people were injured, seven of them seriously, when the building suddenly crumbled on Saturday.

There was no immediate word on what caused the collapse or on the fate of the birthday guest and other celebrants.

Hundreds of rescue workers using sniffer dogs, cranes and high-tech sensors had searched the rubble, lifting slabs of concrete in hopes of finding survivors.

The official China Daily news service said the Cabinet's Work Safety Commission would oversee the investigation into the accident's cause.

While China has seen major improvements in industrial safety, building standards are sometimes ignored, particularly in rural areas such as Shanxi province's Xiangfen county, about 400 miles southwest of Beijing, where the restaurant was located.

The region lies in the heart of China's coal country, where thousands of miners have died in explosions, collapses and floods over the years.



CHINATOPIX/AP

Rescuers search for victims in the aftermath of the collapse of a two-story restaurant Saturday in Xiangfen county in northern China's Shanxi province. More than a dozen were killed after the restaurant collapse during a gathering.

Senior French military officer suspected of Russian ties arrested

Associated Press

PARIS — A senior French military officer based abroad is under investigation for "serious security breaches," the defense minister said Sunday.

Europe-1 radio reported that the officer served on a NATO base in Italy and

is accused of passing "ultra-sensitive" information to Russian secret services.

The French Defense Ministry would not provide details about the officer. Speaking on Europe-1 on Sunday, Defense Minister Florence Parly said only that a judicial

procedure is underway and the French military has taken "necessary protective measures" after the breaches.

The Paris prosecutor's office, which is handling the case, would not comment. NATO did not immediately respond to requests for information.

Parly also said Sunday that France is putting "massive investment" into military activities in space - notably after a 2018 incident in which a Russian satellite cozied up to a French one in an apparent effort to eavesdrop on secure military communications.

Stripes SERVICE DIRECTORY

The Daily Guide to Navigating the European Business Market

Transportation

944

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FACES

Tran lands lead Disney animated role as Raya

By NARDINE SAAD
Los Angeles Times

Kelly Marie Tran will bring the warrior Raya to life in Disney's animated film "Raya and the Last Dragon," replacing Cassie Steele, who previously held the role.

That makes Tran the first Southeast Asian actress to lead an animated Disney film — one that is also inspired by Southeast Asia. The picture has also named new directors, Don Hall and Carlos Lopez Estrada, who join "Raya" story artists Paul Briggs and Dean Wellins at the helm.

In a new look at the project Aug. 27, the animation studio showed the warrior flanked by her trusty steed Tuk Tuk against the dazzling backdrop of the fictional land of Kumandra.

It's unclear why the Raya role was recast.

"Raya and the Last Dragon" was scheduled to be released in November but has been pushed back because of the global repercussions of the COVID-19 crisis. It's currently slated for release on March 12, 2021, and is one of the first Disney Animation features to be developed from remote locations as a result of the pandemic.

Directors Hall and Estrada were taken by Tran's comedy and ad-lib skills, and the level of emotion she brought to the role, Entertainment Weekly reported.

"I didn't know that I was yearning just to see someone who looks like me," the Vietnamese American actress said. "She is someone who is technically a princess, but I think that what's really cool about this project, about this character specifically, is that everyone's trying to flip the narrative on what it means to be a princess."

Tran, 31, rose to fame in 2017 as rebel mechanic Rose Tico in Disney and Lucasfilm's "Star Wars: The Last Jedi." She made headlines (and quit social media) after a toxic reception online. Her screen time was slashed in last year's Skywalker saga finale, "The Rise of Skywalker," and the reviews accused filmmakers of pandering to fans.

Tran's voice, at least, will put her out front in "Raya" as Disney continues to redefine its erstwhile princesses in the vein of "Moana," "Ralph Breaks the Internet" and the "Frozen" franchise.

The new film is set in the fictional realm of Lumandria — a reimagined Earth inhabited by an ancient civilization. Raya is a warrior determined to find the last dragon. The film also stars comedian Awkwafina as Sisu, a dragon in human form, who needs Raya's help to reclaim her power and become her true dragon self.



Tran



Brandy returns to spotlight, conquers her demons on 'B7'

By GARY GERARD HAMILTON
Associated Press

When Brandy began crafting her newest album nearly three years ago, her intent was both benevolent and selfish. She wanted to give R&B fans the timeless music she's been synonymous with, while also gain liberation from emotional bondage.

She achieved her goal with "B7" — but she wasn't prepared for the raw and emotional way the lyrics poured out of her during the creative process. It's why, for the first time, the Grammy winner co-wrote every song on the album and co-produced the majority of the project.

"This is a heartbreak album, on top of me also finding my voice, finding my self-love," the R&B star said. "My heart was just on blast ... I've never been this creative in terms of music, just with writing and producing. It just seemed like I was going into a different part of myself, discovering things about myself I didn't really know before."

"What's the point of doing music if I can't tell my story? If I can't be honest within my own lyrics? If I can't use music to heal my own life?" Brandy, 41, questioned as she became emotional. "So, I just took a chance. And I feel like my life is so much better."

"B7" released last month, marks a triumphant return for the singer whose previous album dropped eight years ago, "Saving All My Love" — a title referencing her mentor, the legend Whitney Houston — opens the album as Brandy explains her absence: "Sorry for my tardy / Long time / I was broad-kenhearted / Heartache, I'm guarded."

"I had to get my heart together. I had to get my mind together," said Brandy, who had her journal open during this interview with The Associated Press. "I'm no good when my spirit is off."

There's pleasant familiarity on the seventh studio record from the woman who has influenced stars like India.Arie, Solange and H.E.R. and is known as the "vocal bible." With "B7," Brandy aimed to create fresh, creative music without losing "what my fans know me to be."

But she also opens herself up by tackling heavy subjects. Mental health is at the center of "Borderline" and on the raw, closing track, "Bye BiPolar," she sings of a love gone terribly wrong (Brandy said she hasn't been diagnosed). She also hints at past possible substance abuse on "Lucid Dreams," a dreamy, minimalist track where she hints, "Got demons to tame (illusions) / Maybe it's a daze / Got worse over time / I was always high/high."

"I wasn't with the person that I wanted to be with, so I was with this person when I fell asleep. And so that was just a healthy place for me," she explained pensively. "That was a scary time. And I had to face a lot of things about myself that I never thought I could."

Released on her new imprint Brand Nu Entertainment, "B7" is Brandy's first independent album. It debuted at No. 3 on Billboard's R&B albums chart and No. 1 on the Independent albums chart. She worked on the album with the songwriting master and mentor, the late LaShawn Daniels, producer DJ Camper (H.E.R., Mary J. Blige) and songwriter Kim "Kraydence" Krysiuk, who contributed to

nine tracks on the album.

"At the start of it, I could tell she was super self-conscious about her ideas ... because I don't know if anyone's ever insisted that confidence in her writing. But she could write her (butt) off," said Krysiuk, who has also penned hits for Beyoncé and Ariana Grande. "She could really have done this album by herself."

It was 1994 when 15-year-old Brandy burst onto the music scene with her self-titled debut, which sold four million albums in the U.S., followed by the five-million-seller "Never Say Never" in 1998, forming a career that birthed hits such as "I Wanna Be Down," "40 (Have You Ever)," "Sittin' Up In My Room" and "The Boy Is Mine," her 1998 duet with Monica that dominated at No. 1 for an astounding 13 weeks. That collaboration, two decades later, still lives on: Brandy and Monica will participate in the popular "Verzuz" celebration series formed by iconic producers Timbaland and Swizz Beatz on Monday.

Another part of Brandy's '90s life is having a moment in 2020: Her sitcom "Moesha" was added to Netflix this month to much fanfare. Following "Moesha," she became the first Black actress to portray "Cinderella" on-screen and she also had her own Barbie Doll.

But her perfect image took a huge hit in 2004 after it was revealed that she lied about a marriage to her child's father to avoid scrutiny for having her daughter out of wedlock.

Some of those experiences, as well as her journey of motherhood, inspired songs on "B7" like the up-tempo pop "Baby Mama" and "High Heels," featuring that same daughter, Sy'rai, now 18 and all grown up.

What's the point of doing music if I can't tell my story? If I can't be honest within my own lyrics? If I can't use music to heal my own life?!

Brandy

Frazz



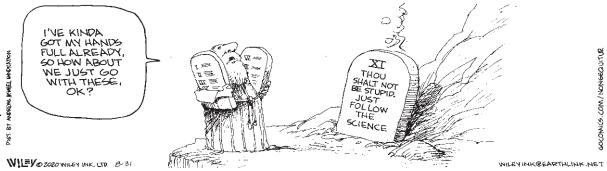
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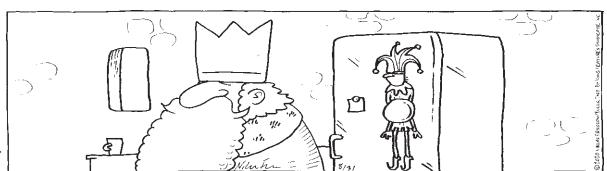
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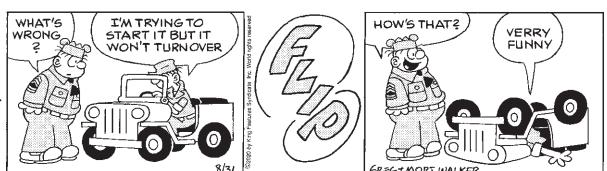
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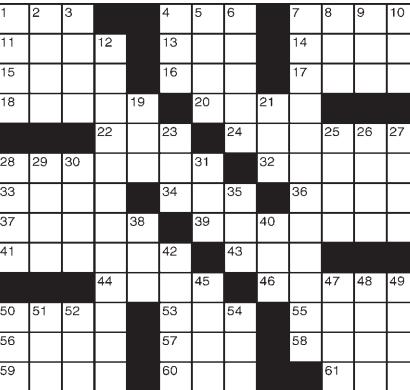
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Bizarro



Eugene Sheffer Crossword



ACROSS

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 11 Lawman Wyatt
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 15 Pennsylvania port
 16 Junior
 17 Helps
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 20 Klinger portrayer
 22 Hide-hair insert
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 28 Big name in coloring supplies
 32 Perry's assistant
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 35 Katy Perry
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 38 Pennants
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 43 "O Sole —"
 44 Location
 46 Top story
 50 Travel
 53 Young lion
 55 Not difficult
 56 Garfield's pal
 57 Devoured
 58 1973 Toni Morrison novel

Answer to Previous Puzzle

N	O	M	S	G	R	E	I	N	S
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8-31

CRYPTOQUIP

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 L C C Q J W U X L T C Q J C L V X
 W C T S X Y N E C X E Q C : N Y B B X T
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Saturday's Cryptoquip: PASSAGEWAY IN A STORE THAT'S FULLY STOCKED WITH CERTAIN SKIN-CARE PRODUCTS: AISLE OF OLAY.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: E equals P


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stripes.com
By JOSH ROGIN
The Washington Post

Many Americans unwitting investors in China

Jr., president and chief executive of RWR Advisory Group, a District of Columbia-based research and risk management consultancy.

CCCC is not only building islands in the South China Sea. The company is also central to Beijing's worldwide Belt and Road initiative, which offers developing countries huge infrastructure projects that often come saddled with corruption, excessive debt, environmental destruction and forced labor practices. There have been documented abuses by CCCC in several countries, including Tanzania, Kenya and Sri Lanka. The company is also deeply intertwined with the People's Liberation Army. It has a Military-Civil Fusion Office, and its subsidiaries build everything from PLA Navy ships to military telecommunications networks to military training facilities.

Last month, Assistant Secretary of State David Stilwell called CCCC and other Chinese state-owned enterprises People's Republic of China "instruments of abuse" and "modern-day equivalents of the East India Company," the British colonialist firm of the 18th and 19th centuries.

Some Trump administration officials have tried to warn large U.S. institutions, such as universities, that their holdings of Chinese companies are bad for them as well as bad for the country.

"The boards of your institution's endowment funds have a moral obligation, and perhaps even a fiduciary duty, to ensure that your institution has clean investments and clean endowment funds," Undersecretary of State Keith Krach wrote in an Aug. 18 letter to the Governing Boards of American Universities. "I urge you to divest from companies that are on the Entity List or that contribute to human rights violations."

Several MSCI and FTSE Russell indexes include CCCC or its subsidiaries. Therefore, if the value of CCCC stock goes down because of U.S. sanctions, millions of American investors will take a hit. Beijing

has pressured these indexes to take on this risk because it gives Wall Street a huge stake in the success of Chinese firms that are working against the United States.

Where investment in Chinese firms goes, corruption often follows. Ben Meng, the chief executive of the largest state pension fund in the United States, CalPERS, resigned this month days after allegations surfaced that he failed to disclose personal investments in Chinese companies he was simultaneously steering billions of dollars of California pension money to. Meng was part of a Chinese Communist Party talent recruitment effort called the Thousand Talents program.

In June, President Donald Trump resurrected a Presidential Working Group on Financial Markets to examine these issues. But its report, issued this month, deals only with U.S. stock exchanges and barely mentions index providers. Moreover, its remedies for cleaning up the U.S. stock exchanges are full of loopholes Beijing will surely exploit.

Some will argue that cutting off Chinese companies from U.S. capital markets is a drastic step that will increase bilateral tensions, push businesses toward competing markets and disadvantage U.S. investors who want to make money from investing in Chinese firms. But as long as China uses its state-controlled enterprises to spread misery, expand militarily and otherwise act criminally, the U.S. government will be compelled to punish them, regardless of whether U.S. investors suffer.

Wall Street must cease steering billions of U.S. dollars to Chinese state-owned firms committing bad acts. We may not be able to stop China from militarizing the South China Sea. But, at the very least, we should stop forcing Americans to pay for it.

Josh Rogin is a columnist for the Global Opinions section of The Washington Post. He writes about foreign policy and national security.

Too many red flags for US to sell weapons to the UAE

By WILLIAM D. HARTUNG
Special to The Washington Post

Recent reports that the Trump administration is planning to sell advanced combat aircraft and armed drones to the United Arab Emirates should prompt a clear-eyed assessment of the security relationship between our two nations. Quite simply, this is no time to be selling weapons to the UAE.

Advocates of the sale have cited the UAE's recent recognition of Israel and its role as a potential ally against Iran to justify the deals. Neither of these rationales hold up to scrutiny.

Israeli government officials, including Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, have made clear that they do not see the UAE as a reason to supply that regime with F-35 aircraft, for fear that doing so would undermine Israel's military edge in the region. More importantly, the UAE's conduct in the Middle East and North Africa should disqualify it from receiving U.S. weaponry.

Despite questionable and dangerous moves on both the foreign and domestic fronts, the UAE has largely escaped the kinds of criticism leveled against its Gulf ally, Saudi Arabia. That needs to change.

Although it has withdrawn most of its combat troops from Yemen, the UAE remains a member of the Saudi-led coalition in Yemen that has killed thousands of civilians in indiscriminate airstrikes while provoking an unprecedented humanitarian

crisis that has left more than 100,000 people dead and put millions more on the brink of famine. The UAE served as the backbone of the coalition's ground war in Yemen and was involved with allied Yemeni militias in running a series of secret torture facilities there. It continues to arm, train and pay the salaries of militias that have engaged in systematic human rights abuses. The United States should refrain from selling the UAE arms of any kind until it stops stoking the conflict in Yemen and enters into a peace agreement to end the war.

There are other reasons to think twice about helping to stock the Emirati arsenal. The UAE has proved to be an unreliable steward of U.S.-supplied weaponry. In Yemen, U.S.-origin armored vehicles and small arms provided to UAE forces have ended up in the hands of extremist militias, and even with the Houthi opposition, in contravention of U.S. regulations.

So far, the UAE has suffered no consequences for this irresponsible behavior. And in Libya, the UAE has been violating a United Nations embargo to supply arms to Khalifa Haftar's forces, who have killed large numbers of civilians in their effort to overthrow the internationally-recognized government there.

The UAE's internal human rights record is also cause for serious concern. The regime does not tolerate criticism of any sort. As Human Rights Watch has noted: "UAE residents who have spoken about

human rights issues are at serious risk of arbitrary detention, imprisonment, and torture. Many are serving long prison terms or have left the country under pressure." The organization has also reported that forced labor of immigrant workers remains an issue, and that UAE law restricts the rights of women to work outside the home and does not outlaw domestic violence. Dissidents who have left the country and their families have faced harassment, intimidation and surveillance by the UAE government's security apparatus.

Taken together, the UAE's pattern of reckless and illegal foreign adventures and internal repression should disqualify it from receiving U.S. weaponry at this time. Not only might the weapons be misused, but sales of advanced systems will also represent an endorsement of the regime's conduct.

If the Trump administration does move forward with its plans, it is up to Congress to take action to block the deals, as it has done in the case of bomb sales to the Saudi-led coalition in Yemen. Although those actions were vetoed by President Donald Trump, they nonetheless sent a strong signal that repressive conduct by the United States' Gulf allies will not receive a blank check going forward — especially if a new administration takes charge in January. Blocking new arms sales to the UAE would make that message even clearer.

William D. Hartung is director of the Arms and Security Program at the Center for International Policy.

OPINION

Masks are good. Let's be more specific about them.

BY TOM FRIEDEN
Special to The Washington Post

If we all wear a mask when we're around others, we'll all be safer. That's been clear for five months. Masks are a simple, low-cost way to protect lives and livelihoods during the coronavirus pandemic. But the federal government's poor communication, along with the politicization of mask-wearing, not only slowed the widespread use of masks, it also delayed answers to more specific questions about which masks are best, when it's most important to wear them, how best to wear them and, most important, how to get more people to mask up correctly.

The Centers for Disease Control and others have changed recommendations about masks because the scientific consensus has changed as more has become known about the virus. For example, with most infectious diseases, the sicker you are and the longer you've been ill, the more infectious you are. This isn't how COVID-19 spreads. Studies have found that the amount of virus in the mouth and nose of an infected person is highest in the days before and soon after they feel sick, then decreases steadily. With COVID-19's close cousin, SARS, it's the opposite — viral load increases steadily over the first seven to 10 days. Studies then emerged showing that a high proportion of infected people didn't feel sick but had large quantities of virus in their mouth and nose and could spread the virus. This series of findings is what prompted the CDC to recommend masks.

Masks are highly effective at protecting others and at least somewhat effective at protecting ourselves. One analysis from Germany suggested a 47% reduction in virus spread just from mask-wearing, and another study suggested that three-quarters of a country's increase could be prevented by mask use. Had the United States adopted mask use earlier, this might have translated into 100,000 fewer deaths, millions fewer lost jobs and businesses, and a faster economic recovery.

Mask mandates work. In South Carolina, locales with mask mandates had a 46% greater decrease in COVID-19 cases than



BEBETO MATTHEWS/AP

Visitors tour the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York on Thursday, during a pre-view in advance of its reopening. City museums will institute a range of precautions, including reduced hours, reserved tickets, mask mandates and limiting attendance.

locales without mask mandates. In Kansas, counties that adopted mask mandates had a striking reduction in cases.

Which masks are best? There are few good studies on this, surprisingly, and findings are inconsistent, but it's clear that just about any face covering is better than none. Our epidemic prevention team at Resolve to Save Lives, an initiative of the global public health organization Vital Strategies, recently released a brief reviewing the science. Surgical masks are highly effective, and for the highest-risk situations, a medical N95 mask without an exhaust valve is safest. In other countries, governments increased production of surgical (and N95) masks, guaranteed their availability and cost, and distributed them as necessary. The United States could have done this through robust use of the Defense Production Act and other means, and still should. Shortages of N95 and surgical masks may have also led to less effective federal leadership on appropriate mask use.

The profusion of homemade face masks, although they may encourage use and engage volunteers and communities in production, obscures important differences in effectiveness. If an N95 or surgical mask isn't being used, a tightfitting mask with three layers consisting of cotton or cotton-synthetic material is next best.

When should masks be used? Masks don't need to be worn in those few places where COVID-19 has been confirmed not to be spreading, or generally outdoors except when people are packed close together, unable to stay six feet apart, particularly for long periods of time. Yes, I'd feel safer if the person walking past me on the sidewalk wore a mask, but the risk from a fleeting, passing outdoor contact — as long as that person isn't sneezing, coughing, shouting or singing close to me — is extremely low. But in any public indoor area where others are present and there is any community spread of COVID-19, masks are essential to reduce risk.

Although mask-wearing has increased in the United States, it remains lower in men than women, lower in the South than the North, and lower than in countries that have used masks most extensively to limit COVID-19. How can we increase mask use?

First, make masks readily available and comfortable, and encourage their use as a social norm. Employers must provide — free — surgical or N95 masks to vulnerable and essential workers, including meatpackers and grocery and pharmacy staff. States including Michigan and private companies have increased supply and normalized masking up. Others should follow suit.

Second, implement mask mandates that are easy to understand, and require businesses to make a good-faith effort to enforce mandates, including, certainly, for all employees.

Third, monitor mask use, as Philadelphia does, and adjust communications campaigns to increase correct mask-wearing. What is measured can be managed. Rigorously designed and evaluated communications campaigns and community engagement can further increase correct mask use.

Mask use won't end the COVID pandemic, of course. Masks must be combined with comprehensive actions, including closure of indoor spaces when appropriate, protecting health care workers and health care facilities, physical distancing, hand-washing, ventilation, strategic testing, rapid isolation, complete contact tracing and more supportive quarantine. Unlike most other measures, however, masks don't cost much and don't interrupt our usual activities: They are among the cheapest, simplest and most effective ways to fight the virus and get the economy running again.

Masks need not separate us from other people. Properly designed and worn, they simply separate us from the virus.

Tom Frieden was director of the CDC from 2009 to 2017 during the H1N1, Ebola and Zika emergencies. He is senior fellow for global health at the Council on Foreign Relations and president and CEO of Resolve to Save Lives (an initiative of Vital Strategies).

Rust Belt's pandemic resilience could help Trump win

BY CONOR SEN
Bloomberg Opinion

This recession has featured extreme differences in pain levels between companies and industries based on their exposure to the pandemic. States are no different. Those reliant on travel and services are basically in depressions. Those more exposed to manufacturing are relatively better off — which may be good news for President Donald Trump's re-election hopes.

State employment data from July make these trends clear. It's why New York City and Los Angeles have unemployment rates close to 20%. But Rust Belt states that were key to the 2016 election, such as Michigan, Ohio and Wisconsin, seem to be suffering something more like a typical recession.

With the national unemployment rate at 10.2%, things aren't going particularly well for any state or region. But Midwest states are relatively less exposed to the industries that have gotten hurt the worst.

Unemployment in Michigan, Ohio and Wisconsin is on average 2% lower than the national unemployment rate. We've never seen anything like this before in 45 years of state employment data, particularly during recessions.

Midwestern states are relatively less exposed to the industries that have gotten hurt the worst.

There are a couple ways to think about this. The first is that if we get a vaccine tomorrow and everyone can go back to their pre-pandemic routines quickly, then the Midwestern states that have done relatively better in this crisis may underperform their coastal peers. The post-vaccine recovery, at least initially, will likely be more robust in New York and San Francisco than Michigan.

But assuming that doesn't happen over at least the next few months, there are reasons to believe these Rust Belt states can grow even as life remains disrupted. Pandemic-related inventory shortages have led to price spikes throughout the economy, suggesting there's room for production to increase. Wednesday's durable goods report points to a V-shaped recovery in manufacturing. This should benefit workers in Midwestern factories and supply chains.

Another perhaps surprising source of strength for the Midwest is the housing market. Construction and new home sales tend to be a more important part of the economy in the South and West, where demographics are more favorable. But last week's new home sales report showed housing is booming in the Midwest as well. On a seasonally adjusted basis, Midwestern new home sales in July were the highest in 13 years, and more than triple their level during the worst months after the 2008 financial crisis.

If the presidential race tightens over the final two months of the campaign, it might be due in part to the economics of key Midwestern states being somewhat more resilient than those of coastal, more Democratic locales.

Unemployment rates of about 8% make it tough for any president running for re-election. As my colleague Brooke Sutherland has written, many manufacturers are cutting jobs even as they report relatively strong profits. But with manufacturing and housing improving, the lagged impact of fiscal relief passed by Congress this spring still being felt, and much of the labor market burden being felt by younger workers who may be less likely to vote, it's possible

the kinds of older voters without strong attachment to either party who voted for President Donald Trump in 2016 might be economically insulated enough to stick with the president.

There are still two months for voters to make up their minds, and in a year like this one, perhaps late-breaking economic conditions will be more impactful than in most election years. For that reason it will be important to track economic conditions not only nationally but also in the states most likely to determine the outcome of the election.

Polling averages currently give Democratic nominee Joe Biden a lead of about 9% nationally and slightly less in Midwestern battleground states, putting him in better shape than Hillary Clinton was at this point in 2016. But if the trajectory of the coronavirus improves somewhat over the next couple of months, manufacturing and housing continue their upward trajectories, and Congress passes another fiscal relief package, that may be enough to make the election more competitive than it currently looks.

Conor Sen is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist. He has been a contributor to the Atlantic and Business Insider.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL/AUTO RACING



PHOTOS BY JAKE CRANDALL, THE MONTGOMERY ADVERTISER/AP

Austin Peay Governors quarterback Jeremiah Oatsvall runs the ball against **Central Arkansas** during Saturday's "Week Zero" football game in Montgomery, Ala. The Bears won the game — the first played under the coronavirus pandemic — 24-17.

Back: Fans, teams hope for best from experiment

FROM BACK PAGE

is different. I have been awed by the power of this virus and its ability to be transmitted from person to person."

He cited the number of outbreaks already on campuses of colleges and universities.

Austin Peay didn't disclose the number of players, coaches or staffers affected by COVID-19. But athletic director Gerald Harrison posted on Twitter that the team brought 70 players as usual.

The biggest name missing was wide receiver DeAngelo Wilson, a second-team AP FCS All-American last season.

"None of the individuals representing Austin Peay in Montgomery, Alabama, tested positive for the virus that causes COVID-19," Harrison wrote.

Central Arkansas didn't have any key players fail to make the trip.

Central Arkansas coach Nathan Brown acknowledged leading up to the "Week Zero" game that there had been some uneasiness with going forward with a season. It was hard to avoid the



Austin Peay interim coach Marquise Lovings leads his team onto the field for Saturday's game against Central Arkansas.

news that leagues like the Pac-12 and Big Ten opted against playing this fall.

"This season was hanging on a thread and we knew that we had to do things right and we knew that our players had to truly buy into that," Brown said. "As a human being, you're naturally going to go through the emotions of what you see and what you feel."

"But what I encouraged our guys to do was not pay attention to social media, pay attention to what's right in front of you in Conway, Arkansas, at the University of Central Arkansas and base your judgment on that. And I think we've handled things well."

Fans and teams — and college football in general — are hoping

for a positive outcome for both players and those who sat in the stands for Game 1 of the COVID-19 experiment.

The first glitch came when Austin Peay's freshman CJ Evans scored on a 75-yard touchdown run to start the game. The referee's mic was live when he cursed "God damn mask."

The family of Austin Peay's George Pollard drove down from Birmingham to see the starting wide receiver and his team play. Father George Pollard is used to being around people for his job at a car manufacturing plant and he had no reservations.

"Ready to get out of the house," Pollard said. "Ready for college football to kick off."

Byron reaches playoffs with his first series win

Johnson's final season will end without a title

BY MARK LONG
Associated Press

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — William Byron snaked his way through a smoky crash late Saturday night at Daytona International Speedway and narrowly avoided another melee a few laps later.

Those moves got him to victory lane for the first time in his young NASCAR Cup Series career and back in the playoffs for the second consecutive season.

They also helped knock out Hendrick Motorsports teammate Jimmie Johnson, a seven-time series champion whose final season won't end with another title.

Winless in 120 races, Johnson made a trip to victory lane to congratulate Byron and the No. 24 team, the one now directed by Johnson's former and long-time crew chief, Chad Knaus.

"It's a big win for Chad Knaus and William Byron," Johnson said. "I really felt like we had a way to transfer, to win, or point our way in and things just got ugly, unfortunately, but that's plate racing."

Byron won the race in overtime after two late cautions and locked up one of the three postseason berths available going into the finale. Matt DiBenedetto finished 12th and secured the final spot. Clint Bowyer wrapped up a berth at the end of the opening stage.

"It was too eventful," said DiBenedetto, whose parents drove down from North Carolina to watch from the stands. "I'm mentally worn out. I'm gonna sleep great tonight, but there was so much going on there at the end."

Chase Elliott finished second, followed by Denny Hamlin, Martin Truex Jr. and Bubba Wallace.

Johnson looked as if he would land one of those three playoff spots. But he got shuffled back in the final stage and then got caught up in a wreck in the closing laps that started when Hamlin made contact with Joey Logano. Byron squeezed between the two, took the lead and held on after a green-white-checkered finish.

It was the ninth overtime finish at Daytona's summertime race in the last 13 years.

Byron didn't care how he got it, just that he finally did.

"It's been a hard couple of years in the Cup Series and trying to get my first win and trying to get with this team," Byron said. "These guys have done an awesome job and to be in the playoffs is amazing, man."

About 20,000 fans spread out across Daytona's massive motorsports stadium and were treated to a frantic finish. The race was pretty clean for most of the night, but got crazy down the stretch.

Tyler Reddick started the first multicar crash by trying to block Kyle Busch after getting a huge push to take the lead. Busch clipped Reddick's bumper, sending him into the outside wall and collecting several other cars.

Busch, Erik Jones, Kurt Busch, Austin Dillon, Ryan Newman, Ricky Stenhouse Jr. and others were knocked out.

"(Reddick) just ran out of talent," Newman said. "All it takes is one goofball to make a mistake."

Reddick accepted responsibility for the wreck.

"If someone made that move on me, I'd be pretty mad, too," he said.

Byron swerved his way through clouds of smoke to stay in the mix there. He was even luckier after Hamlin and Logano got together.

"I wasn't going to lift," Byron said. "It was awesome."

He did a burnout that included a few spins through Daytona's wet infield grass and then headed to victory lane for the first time in three years.

Liberty connection

Byron has taken remote classes at Liberty University, and the winning car carried sponsorship from the school. The deal was brokered between Hendrick Motorsports and Jerry Falwell Jr., who stepped down this week shrouded in scandal as head of the university.

Wallace reacts

Wallace said before the race that there was not much of a dialogue among NASCAR drivers regarding sitting out the Cup Series regular-season finale at Daytona.

NASCAR pressed on at its historic track while other sports postponed games and practices this week in the wake of the shooting of Jacob Blake, a Black man, by a white police officer in Kenosha, Wis.

"We still have a lot of work to do as a nation to make things better for us, our next generation coming up through," Wallace told NBC Sports before the race. "Us not following suit (with other sports) does not mean that we're standing down. We still know what's on our table or what's on our plate to go out and accomplish and attempt to accomplish to make this a better place."

MLB

Scoreboard

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

Indians 2, Cardinals 1 (12)

	ab	h	bi	r	h	bb	so
Ramirez, 3b	4	1	1	0	Edman, 2b	4	0
Ramirez, 3b	1	1	1	1	DeJong, ss	5	0
Upton, 1b	5	0	0	0	Miller, dh	18	0
C.Smith, 1b	5	0	0	0	Molina, c	1	0
E.Reyes, rh	4	0	0	0	Molina, c	5	0
François, 1b	5	0	0	0	Crprter, 3b	5	1
François, 1b	5	0	1	1	O'Neill, lf	3	0
D.Santana, lf	2	0	0	0	O'Neill, lf	20	0
D.Santana, lf	2	0	0	0	Peraza, ss	3	0
Leon, c	2	0	0	0	Bader, cf	9	0
Chang, pr	0	0	0	0	Crism, ph-cf	1	0
R.Herrera, 1b	0	0	0	0			0
Allen, cl-f	4	0	0	0			0
Totals	37	2	5	1	Tables	37	1
St. Louis	000	000	000	1	St. Louis	000	000
E.-Molina, (3), DP-Cleveland, 3, St. Louis, 1, LOB-10, 2B-1, 3B-0, HR-0, 2B-Naquin (6), Goldschmidt (4), HR-Ramirez (7), SB-Fowler (1), S-DeShields (2).							
IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO		

	ab	h	bi	r	h	bb	so
Cleveland							
Carrasco	6	2	0	0	2	6	0
Kazmir, B.S. 1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
Maton	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
O.Perez	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Upton, 1b, W-2	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Hand, S, 10-10	1	0	0	0	0	0	3
St. Louis	000	000	000	1	St. Louis	000	000
François, 1b	5	3	1	1	2	5	3
Cabrera	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
Gomber	1	0	0	0	0	2	0
Gallardo	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gant	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
A.Reyes, L-1, 1	2	1	1	0	0	0	3
H.P.Faherty, 2b, 1b, W-1, (Ed-man), WP-A.Reyes, T-406.							

Brewers 7, Pirates 6

	ab	h	bi	r	h	bb	so
Pittsburgh							
Gonzalez, 3b	3	2	2	0	Urías, 2b	3	0
Tucker, cf	2	2	0	1	Yelich, lf	4	2
Newman, ss	3	0	0	0	Miller, dh	1	0
Ball, 1b	2	0	0	0	Smash, 3b	2	0
Stallings, 1b	0	1	2	0	Gyorko, ph	1	0
Frazee, 1b	0	1	2	0	Arrieta, c	3	0
Rifkin, lf	0	0	0	0	Osuna, dh	4	0
Osuna, dh	4	0	0	0	Nitingham, 0-0	0	0
Pinco, ph-dh	0	0	0	0	Gordon, cf	0	0
Ridder, rf	4	1	0	0	Castro, 2b	0	0
Arcia, ss	0	0	0	0	Peterson, rf	4	2
Peterson, rf	0	0	0	0	Castro, 3b	0	0
Totals	34	6	10	6	Totals	31	7
Pittsburgh	000	000	000	2	Pittsburgh	000	000
E.-Molina, (3), DP-Milwaukee, 1, LOB-12, 2B-1, 3B-0, HR-0, 2B-Naquin (6), Goldschmidt (4), (2), Stallings (3), Game, 4, (Yelich) (5), Gyorko (6), 3B-Gonzalez (1), HR-Bell (3), Yelich (8), Arcia, 2b, Sogard (1), SF-Bell (3), Newman (1).							
IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO		

	ab	h	bi	r	h	bb	so
Pittsburgh							
Brusdar, 1b	5	3	2	0	3	2	3
Howard, H, 2	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Stratton, H, 3	1	1	1	1	1	0	1
Yardley, 1b	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Ridder, L, 2-2, BS, 1	0	1	2	1	0	0	1
Milwaukee	000	000	000	1	Milwaukee	000	000
Perata, 5	9	4	4	4	4	0	6
Yardley	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Castro, 2b	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Hader, H, 7-8	35	20	20	20	20	5	1
D.Williams, 2-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rodriguez pitched to 2 batters to the 9th, Anderson pitched to 11 batters to the 10th, Turner (Hira). WP-Perata, T-3:19.							
IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO		

Roundup

Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — Max Muncy drove in four runs to close home for the Los Angeles Dodgers, who can still avoid their first series loss of the season after a 7-4 win Saturday night over the Texas Rangers and potential trade target Lance Lynn.

Cody Bellinger's long two-run homer in the third put Los Angeles up 3-0. Muncy, who played high school baseball about 25 miles from the new Rangers ballpark, made it 4-2 with a deep sacrifice fly in the fifth off Lynn (4-1). The sluggers belted a three-run homer in the sixth.

Blake Treinen (3-1) worked 1 1/3 scoreless innings for the win. Kenley Jansen got three outs for his ninth save.

Yankees 2, Mets 1: Clint Frazier scored the winning run on Dellin Betances' wild pitch in the ninth inning, and the host Yankees averted their longest losing streak in a quarter-century.

Adell breaks out in Angels' rout

Hits his first two
homers in 16-3
defeat of Seattle

BY JOE REEDY
Associated Press

ANAHEIM, Calif. — Jo Adell hit his first two major league home runs, Mike Trout drove in six and the Los Angeles Angels set a season high in runs as they routed the Seattle Mariners 16-3 Saturday night.

Angels right-hander Dylan Bundy (4-2), a subject of speculation ahead of Monday's trade deadline, returned to early season form after giving up four runs in each of his last two starts. He allowed only one run, four hits and three walks in 5 1/3 innings with three strikeouts. It was the fourth time in seven starts he has allowed one run or fewer.

The 21-year-old Adell came into the game batting .175 and in the midst of a 4-for-28 slump. Justin Upton led off the second with a walk before Adell drove Justin Shefield's curveball an estimated 437 feet into the left field stands to give LA a 3-1 advantage.

"That is the sound of a power hitter right there, and then I saw the flight and the replay," Angels manager Joe Maddon said.

Adell became the fifth player in franchise history to hit his first two big league homers in the same game when he lined one just over the wall in right-center to lead off the seventh and extend the lead to 7-1. Before Adell, the last Halos player to do it was Tom Brunansky in 1981.

"I've had my struggles but it was good to have a swing and a day like I had tonight," Adell said.

"I've really made a point over the past couple weeks of simplifying



PHOTOS BY ALEX GALLARDO/AP

Above: Los Angeles Angels outfielder Jo Adell watches his sixth-inning solo home run, his second of two homers in the game, in a 16-3 defeat of the Seattle Mariners on Saturday in Anaheim, Calif. Below: Mike Trout scores on a double by Anthony Rendon. Trout drove in six RBIs in the game.

the swing. I've cut down a lot of the movement I had. I'm trying to slow everything down and make it more compact."

It is the third time in Trout's career he has had six or more RBIs in a game. The reigning AL MVP had three hits, including a three-run homer in the seventh inning to extend the lead to 14-1. Trout has homered in the first two games of the series and has 297 for his career. He also had a two-run double in the sixth and a sacrifice fly in the eighth.

Trout leads the Majors with 32 RBIs and his 12 home runs are

and Anthony Rendon each drove

in two for Los Angeles, which has its first three-game winning streak since July 2019. Pujols had a two-run single in the fifth to make it 6-1.

When Braden Bishop's single drove in Dee Gordon in the eighth, the Mariners were down 14-2.

Sheffield (2-3) allowed six runs and four hits in 4 1/3 innings. The left-hander also had four walks and six strikeouts. Mariners' pitchers had 11 walks, including two with the bases loaded.

"The game got away from us and got ugly at the end. We struggled to make adjustments on Bundy," Seattle manager Scott Servais said.



Tigers 8-4, Twins 2-2: Miguel Cabrera hit a tie-breaking two-run homer in the fifth inning, lifting host Detroit to a double-header sweep.

The Tigers took the opener behind Matthey Boyd (1-4), who pitched six solid innings for his first victory of the season. Victor Reyes had four hits.

Astros 4-6, Athletics 2-3: Kyle Tucker hit a bases-clearing triple, George Springer homered and host Houston competed a double-header sweep.

In the first game, Lance McCullers Jr. (3-2) pitched six effective innings for the Astros, and Tucker hit a three-run homer.

Giants 5, Diamondbacks 2: Evan Longoria hit two doubles, Brandon Belt reached base four times and San Francisco won at Arizona to snap a three-game losing streak.

Blue Jays 5, Orioles 0: Taijuan Walker pitched six shutout innings in his debut for host Toronto.

NHL PLAYOFFS/TENNIS

Roundup

Islanders top Flyers for 2-1 series lead

Associated Press

TORONTO — Matt Martin and Leo Komarov scored in the second period as the New York Islanders rallied to beat the Philadelphia Flyers 3-1 on Saturday night, taking a 2-1 lead in their conference semifinal series.

Anders Lee also scored, and Semyon Varlamov had 26 saves to rebound after a rocky Game 2 that saw him benched in the first period in an overtime loss to the Flyers.

"If you go back to the first 68 games of the regular season, he was very good after a loss and bounced back," New York coach Barry Trotz said of his goalie. "I think the maturity of (Varlamov) as a pro shows in volumes, and it shows especially after losses."

The playoffs resumed after a two-day break to protest racial injustice, the latest twist in an unprecedented, pandemic-twisted season. Game 4 is Sunday night.

Tyler Pitlick scored for Philadelphia in the first period, and Carter Hart had 26 saves.

Pitlick's wrist shot from the top of the right circle flashed past the glove of a screened Varlamov glove to give the Flyers a 1-0 lead 5:42 into the game. The play was set up by a puck battle behind the net won by Scott Laughton, who was able to power his way out and drop the pass off to Pitlick.

After a couple near misses by Mathew Barzal early in the second, the Islanders' center showed a pass out from the back boards to a wide-open Martin on the doorstep for the tying goal at the 7:12 mark.

Komarov gave New York its first lead when his shot in heavy traffic trickled through Hart's pads and over the line with 6 seconds left in the middle period.

"We didn't have a good first period, they got to their game and kind of took it to us for a little while," Martin said. "I think in the intermission we kind of re-

grouped. The last 10 minutes of the first was decent, but we knew we had to come out with a strong second, and we took the game over from there."

Lee put the Islanders on 3-1 on a power play early in the third when his shot in traffic bounded past Hart.

Philadelphia pulled the goalie on a late power play but Varlamov held up to the 6-on-4 attack.

Lightning 3, Bruins 1: Well-rounded winger Ondrej Palat is scoring, reigning MVP Nikita Kucherov is defending and Tampa Bay has taken over its series against Boston.

Palat scored two goals to give him four in the past three games, Kucherov was part of a strong defensive effort in the third period and the Lightning grabbed a 3-1 lead in their second-round series. From goaltender Andrei Vasilevskiy on, Tampa Bay is clicking like the Stanley Cup contender it was supposed to be and now stands one victory away from eliminating Boston and moving on to the Eastern Conference final for the second time in three years.

"Right now the guys are feeling it," coach Jon Cooper said. "Let's hope it continues."

This matchup has been all Lightning since the Bruins won Game 1. They've taken the past three, notably since Palat scored the Game 2 overtime winner.

Golden Knights 3, Canucks 0: Robin Lehner stopped 32 shots and Vegas beat Vancouver to take a 2-1 lead in the Western Conference semifinal series.

Alex Tuch, his seventh goal of the postseason, and Mark Stone and Zack Whitecloud also scored.

Lehner got his second career playoff shutout — and the second of the series. He blanked the Canucks 5-0 in the series opener and improved to 7-2 in the return-to-play tournament.

Jacob Markstrom made 31 saves for Vancouver.

NBA PLAYOFFS

Scoreboard

Playoffs

At Lake Buena Vista, Fla.
FIRST ROUND
Best-of-seven; x-if necessary

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Milwaukee 4, Orlando 1
Orlando 122, Milwaukee 110
Milwaukee 111, Orlando 96
Milwaukee 121, Orlando 107
Milwaukee 121, Orlando 106
Saturday: Milwaukee 118, Orlando 104

Toronto 4, Brooklyn 0
Toronto 134, Brooklyn 110
Toronto 126, Brooklyn 95
Toronto 117, Brooklyn 92
Toronto 150, Brooklyn 122

Boston 4, Philadelphia 0

Boston 122, Philadelphia 101

Boston 128, Philadelphia 101

Boston 102, Philadelphia 94

Boston 121, Philadelphia 106

Miami 4, Indiana 0

Miami 113, Indiana 101

Miami 109, Indiana 100

Miami 99, Indiana 87

WESTERN CONFERENCE

LA. Lakers 4, Portland 1

Portland 122, LA. Lakers 133

LA. Lakers 111, Portland 88

LA. Lakers 116, Portland 108

LA. Lakers 135, Portland 115

Saturday: LA. Lakers 131, Portland 122

LA. Clippers 3, Dallas 2

LA. Clippers 122, Dallas 110

Dallas 127, LA. Clippers 114

LA. Clippers 111, Dallas 122

Dallas 135, LA. Clippers 133, OT

LA. Clippers 150, Dallas 111

Sunday: Game 6

x-Tuesday: Game 7

Utah 3, Denver 2

Denver 122, Utah 107

Utah 124, Denver 87

Utah 129, Denver 127

Denver 107, Utah 107

Sunday: Game 6

x-Tuesday: Game 7

Houston 3, Oklahoma City 2

Houston 122, Oklahoma City 108

Oklahoma City 112, Houston 107

Oklahoma City 117, Houston 114

City 80

Monday: Game 6

x-Tuesday: Game 7

CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS (Best-of-seven; x-if necessary)

Eastern Conference

Miami 4, LA. vs. Miami

Monday: Game 1

Wednesday: Game 2

Friday: Game 3

Sunday: Game 4

x-Tuesday, Sept. 8: Game 5

x-Thursday, Sept. 10: Game 6

x-Saturday, Sept. 12: Game 7

Toronto 7, Boston 6

Sunday: Game 1

Tuesday: Game 2

Thursday: Game 3

Saturday: Game 4

x-Monday, Sept. 7: Game 5

x-Wednesday, Sept. 9: Game 6

x-Friday, Sept. 11: Game 7

Roundup

United after protest, Bucks eliminate Magic in Game 5

Associated Press

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. — Brook Lopez sensed bonds between Milwaukee Bucks players strengthening after their decision to boycott a playoff game sent ripples across the NBA and other major pro sports leagues, which joined in suspending play to protest against racial injustice.

And when it was time to return to the court, they were in sync.

Giannis Antetokounmpo had 28 points and 17 rebounds and the Bucks beat the Orlando Magic 118-104 on Saturday to close out the Eastern Conference series in five games.

“You could just feel the closeness,” said Lopez, who had 16 points. “We’re still out there on the floor taking care of our mission and what we want to achieve, but I think being through all this

brought us together even more.”

Milwaukee advanced to face Miami in the second round, be-

ginning Monday. But the Bucks

showed little interest in congratulating themselves or talking about

it.

“It’s been a crazy week,” Lopez

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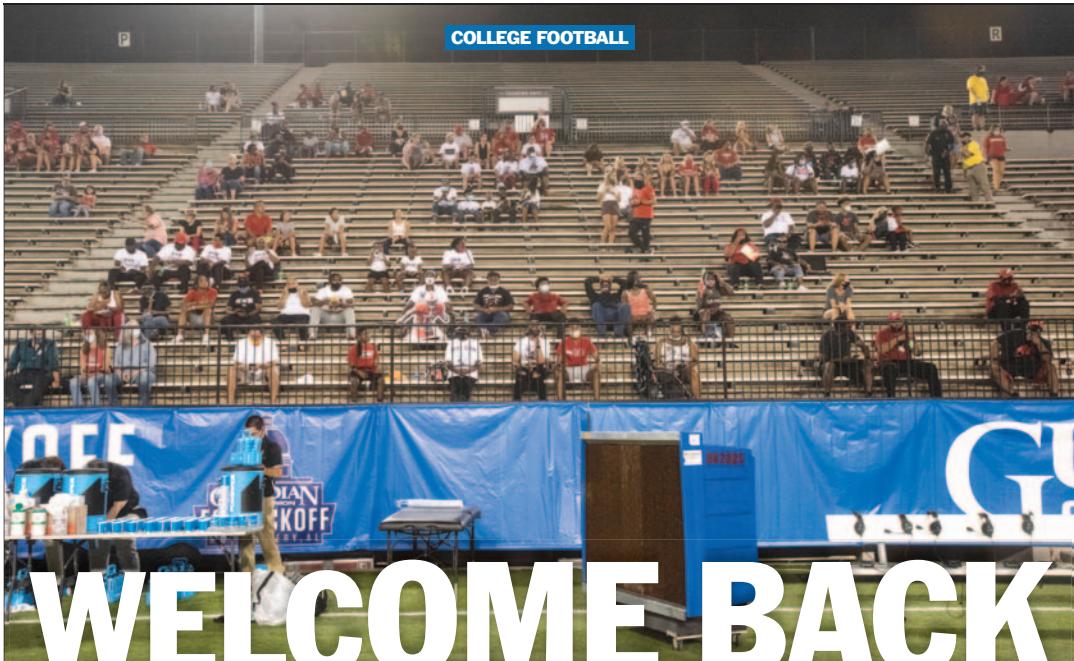
SPORTS



Still in the bubble

Lakers move on to second round
with win over Blazers » Page 23

COLLEGE FOOTBALL



WELCOME BACK

Austin Peay and Central Arkansas kick off, COVID-19 style, in Alabama

By JOHN ZENOR
Associated Press

WMONTGOMERY, Ala. With masks, social distancing and mostly empty stands, the college football season kicked off on COVID-19 style.

Austin Peay and Central Arkansas, two teams fresh from FCS playoff appearances, took the stage at Cramton Bowl Saturday night in the Guardian Kickoff Classic. The Bears won 24-17 but college football was the star of the show.

"It's the first game from the pandemic, and so it should mean that much more to everybody. Not just the players," said Dave Dotson, whose family drove in from Texas to see son Simeon, a defensive back for Central Arkansas.

Only 2,000 tickets were distributed at the 22,000-seat stadium, and there appeared to be significantly fewer fans actually attending. A number of them were family members of players.

Masks were required coming into the gates, walking around the stadium and at the concession stands. Coaches and players also wore them on the sidelines.

Dave and Juliana Dotson decided to make the drive with teen sons Reuben and Ephraim — which turned into about 12 hours Friday because of Hurricane Laura-related detours — after seeing the precautions being taken at the game.

"It made us feel a little better about being here," Juliana said. "It said there would be four seats in between each group and two rows, so there would be social distancing put in place."

University of Alabama at Birmingham professor of infectious diseases Michael Saag said the game would be "a good test case" for sports and live events. Both teams were tested Wednesday.

"Let's pull back to the big picture: Everything we do in this epidemic is an experiment of sorts," said Saag, who is also associate dean for global health. "Nobody really knows what's going to happen at any event or with any type of exposure."

"We know the general principles and I think every human being on the planet can quote line and verse about mask-wearing distance. But each situation

SEE BACK ON PAGE 19

Above: Fans sit in the stands before Saturday's game between Austin Peay and Central Arkansas in Montgomery, Ala. Right: Central Arkansas coach Nathan Brown yells at an official.

PHOTOS BY JAKE CRANDALL, THE MONTGOMERY ADVERTISER/AP



Byron into playoffs with first Cup win » Auto racing, Page 19

